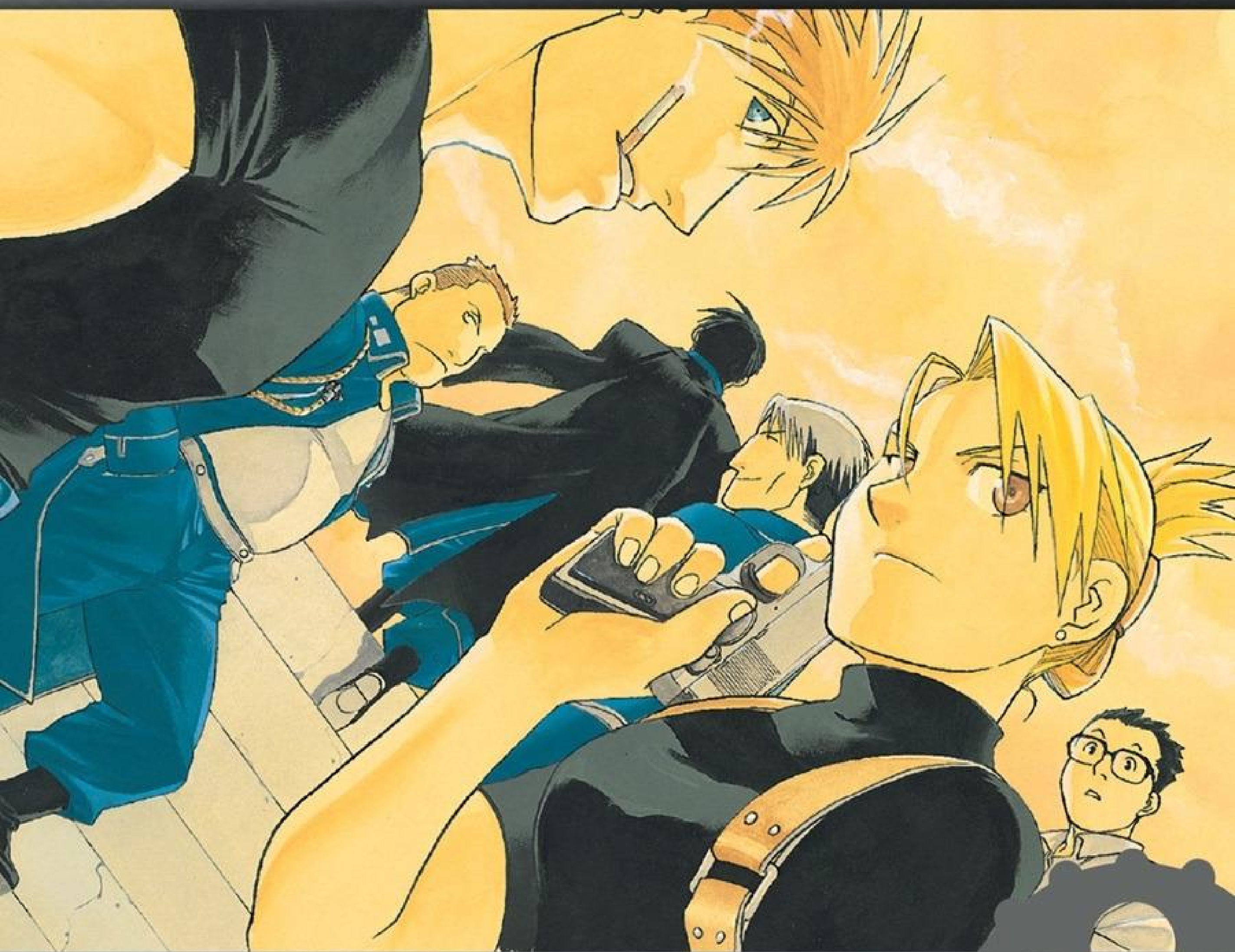


FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST™



STORY AND ART BY
HIROMU ARAKAWA

9



When my comic artist friends and I gather at an Izakaya (restaurant/bar), we always have lively conversations about manga. Sometimes we talk so much that we miss the last train—some people might think, “What are a bunch of grown-ups doing wasting time like that?” But when I hear my friends saying things like, “This is the kind of manga that I want to do!!” I really feel reenergized. This time Mr. Moritaishi, who is a passionate and talented fellow of the best sort, was kind enough to do the bonus comic for this volume. Yaaay!! (Bliss)

—Hiromu Arakawa, 2004



Born in Hokkaido (northern Japan), Hiromu Arakawa first attracted national attention in 1999 with her award-winning manga *Stray Dog*. Her series *Fullmetal Alchemist* debuted in 2001 in Square Enix’s monthly manga anthology *Shonen Gangan*.



FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST



金の錬金術師
FUTLMIETAL ALCHEMIST

9

荒川弘

HIROMU ARAKAWA

CHARACTERS

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST



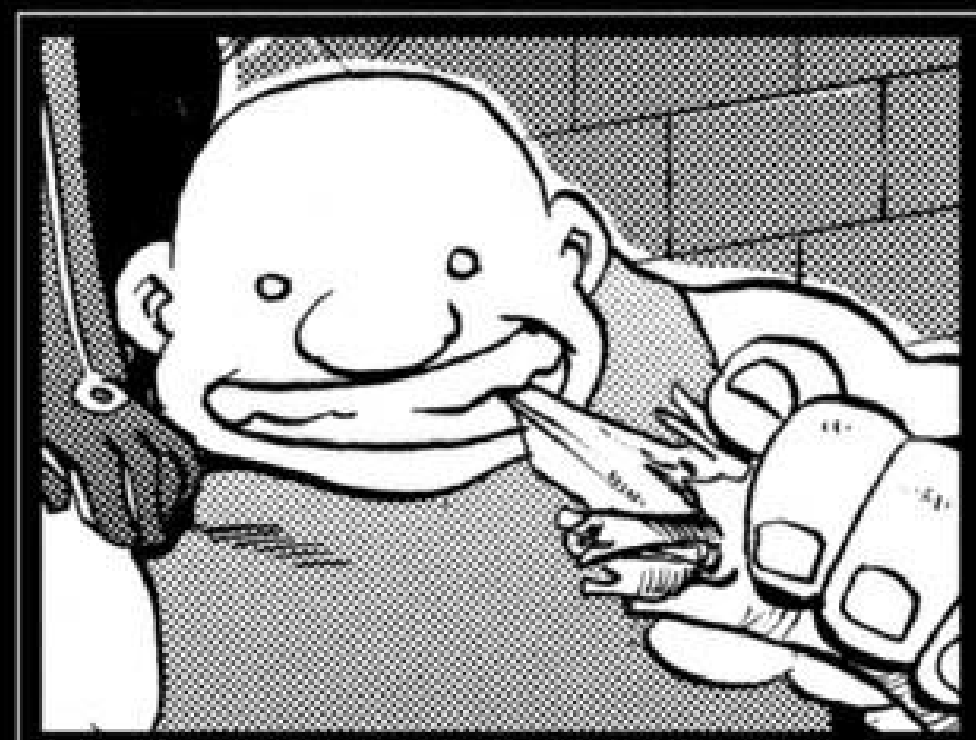
□ ウィンリィ・ロックベル

Winry Rockbell



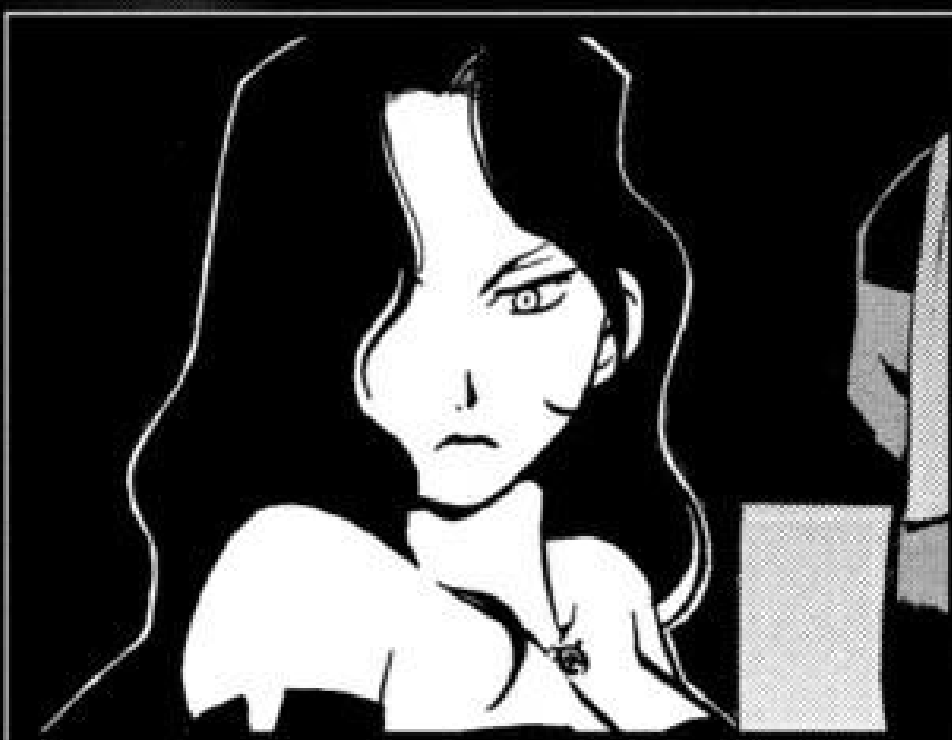
□ マリア・ロス

Maria Ross



□ グラトニー

Gluttony



□ ラスト

Lust



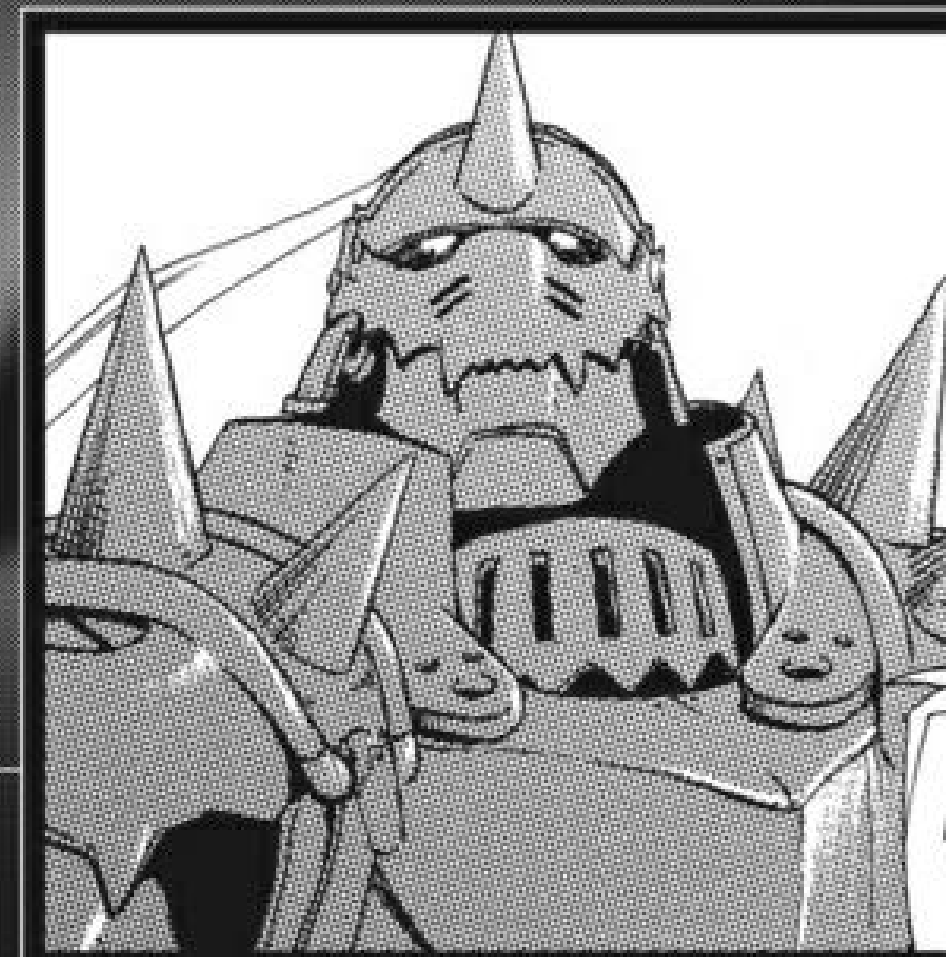
□ 66

66



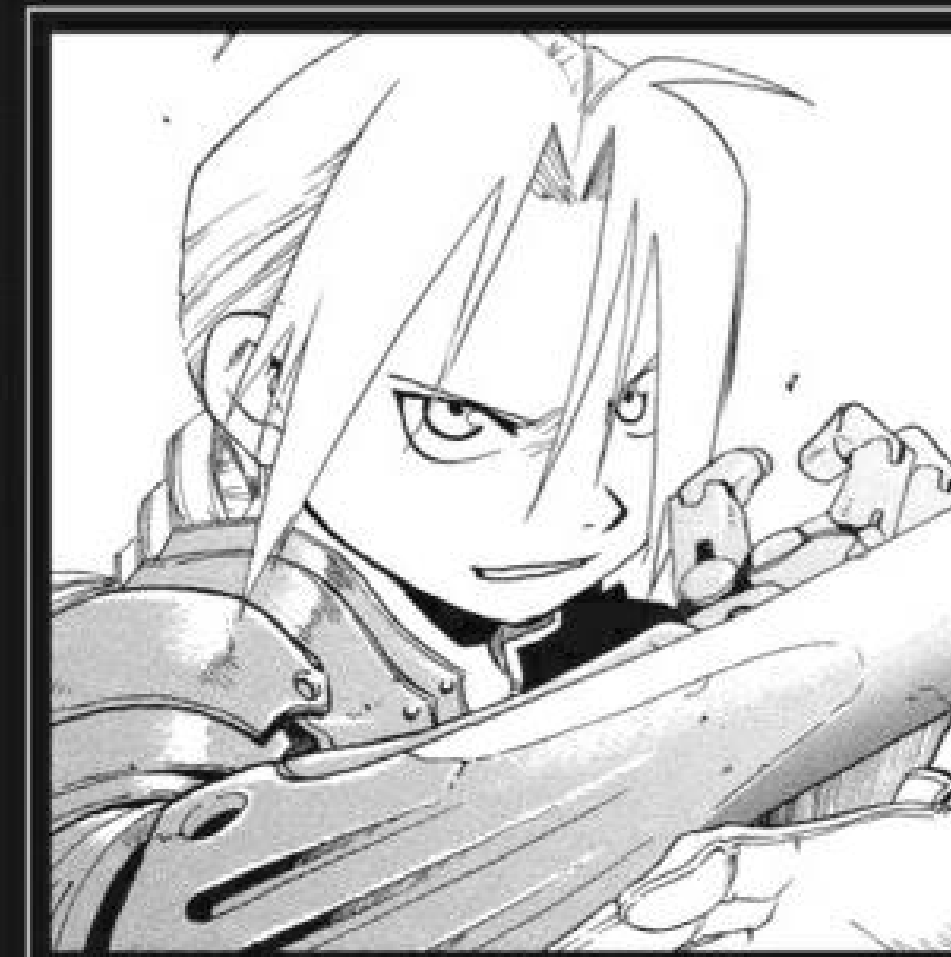
□ エンヴィー

Envy



□ アルフォンス・エルリック

Alphonse Elric



□ エドワード・エルリック

Edward Elric



□ アレックス・ルイ・アームストロング

Alex Louis Armstrong



□ ロイ・マスタング

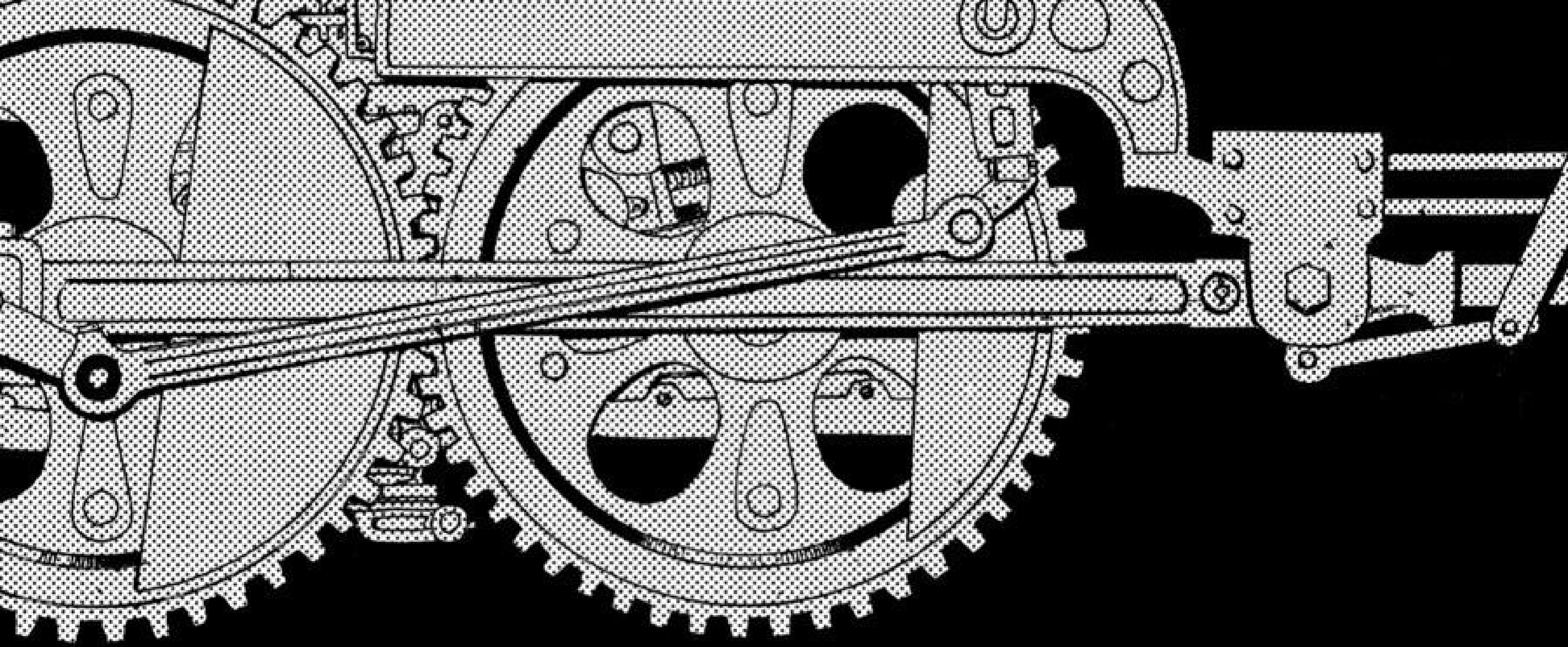
Roy Mustang

OUTLINE

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

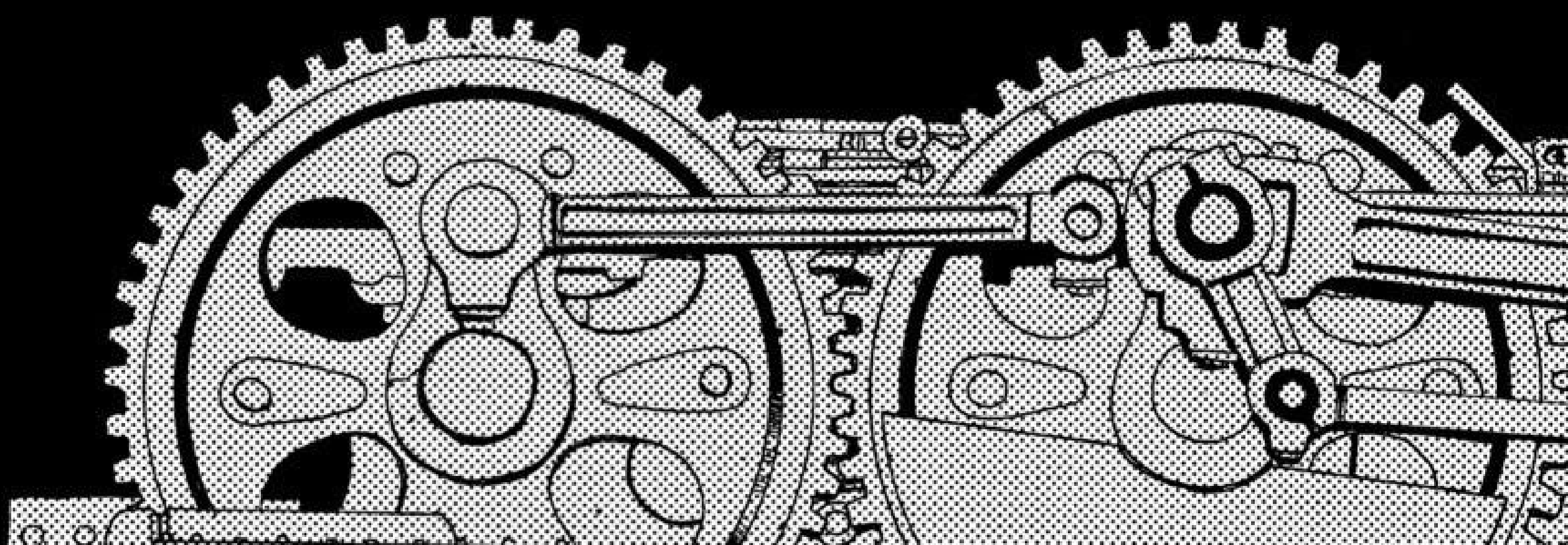
Using a forbidden alchemical ritual, the Elric Brothers attempted to bring their dead mother back to life. But the ritual went wrong, consuming Edward Elric's leg and Alphonse Elric's entire body. At the cost of his arm, Edward was able to graft his brother's soul into a suit of armor. Equipped with mechanical "auto-mail" to replace his missing limbs, Edward becomes a state alchemist, serving the military on deadly missions. Now, the two brothers roam the world in search of the philosopher, the legendary substance with the power to restore what they have lost...

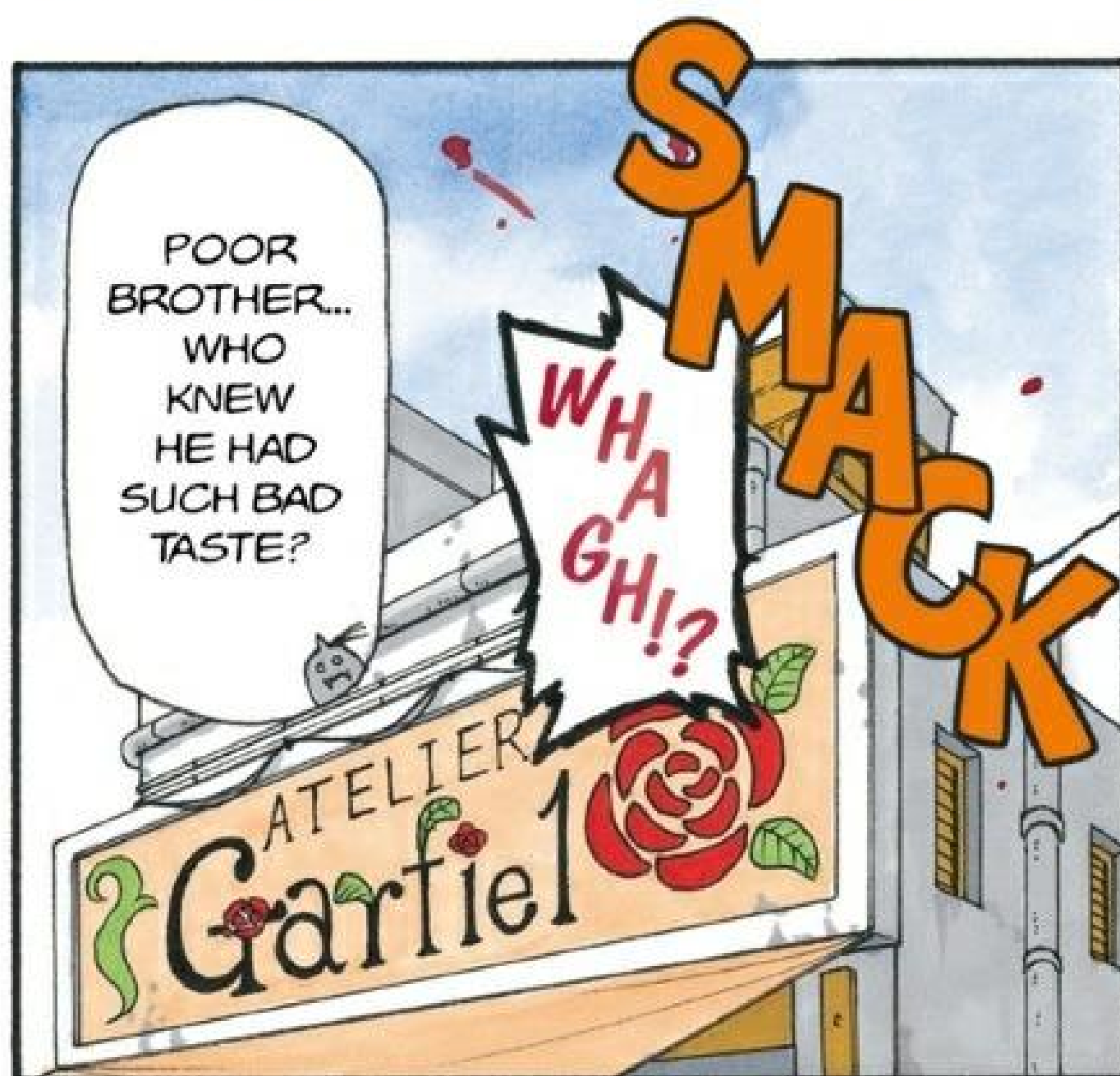
After a traumatic visit to Dublith and a run in with the rogue homunculus Greed, Al's memory of "the truth" is unlocked. Now, like his brother and their teacher Izumi, the younger Elric can perform alchemy without a transmutation circle. The traumatic battle left Ed's auto-mail broken, so once again they go to Winry for repairs. In Rush Valley, the Elric brothers are joined by Lin, a prince from Xing who also seeks the philosopher's stone. As they set off for central, Winry joins the boys in the hopes of visiting Lt. Colonel Hughes. Little do they know that Hughes was murdered shortly after they last saw him...

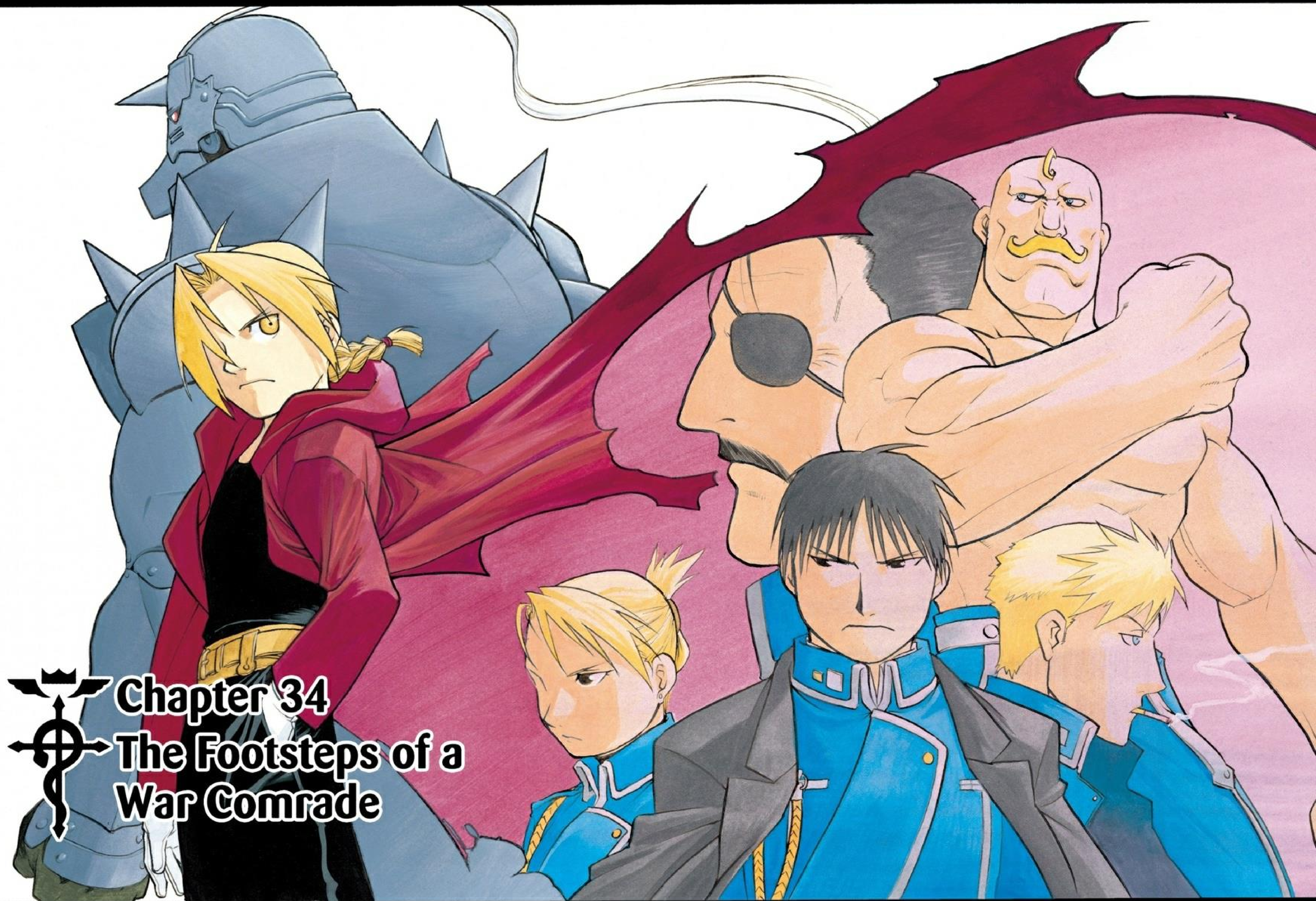


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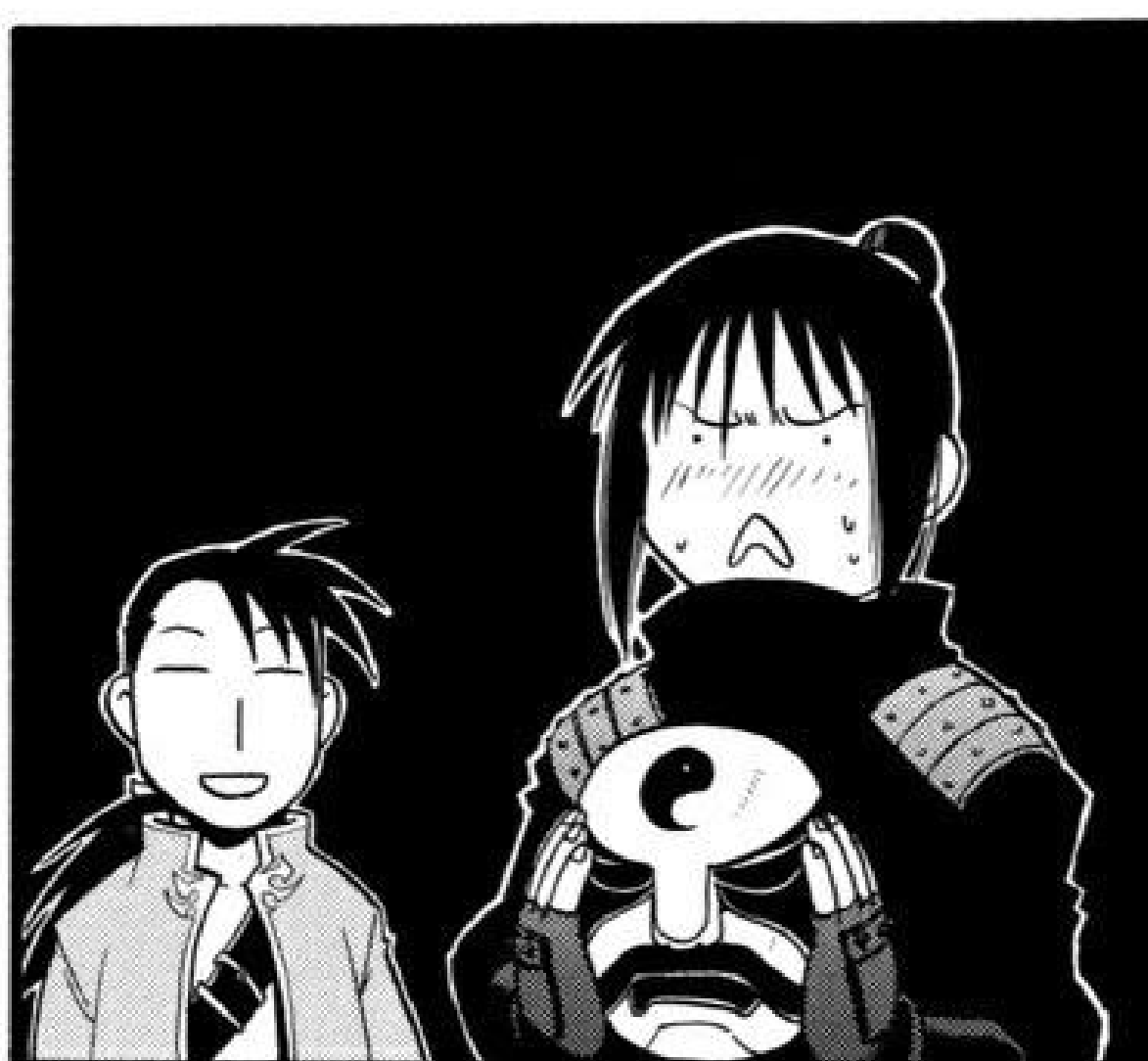
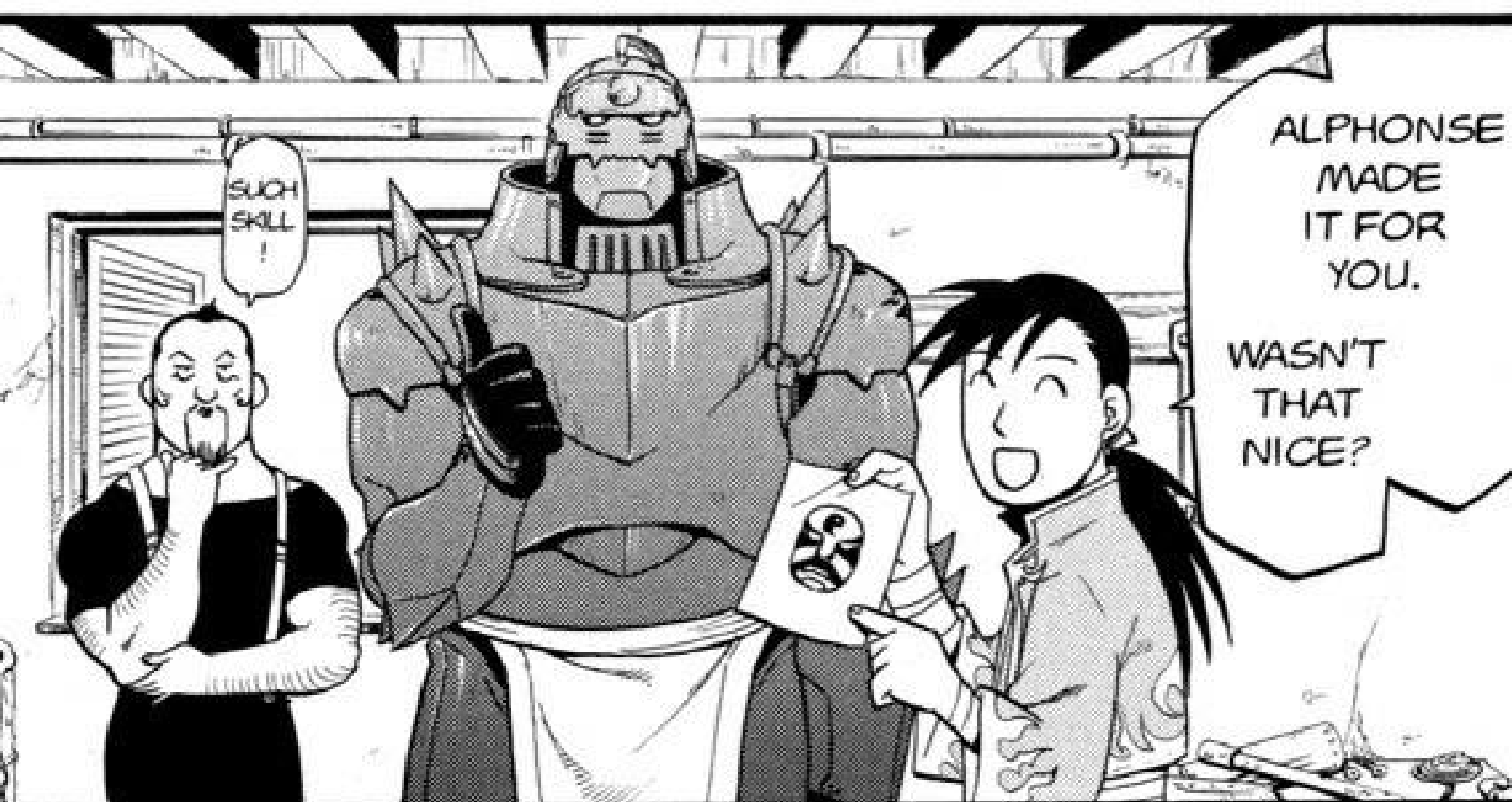


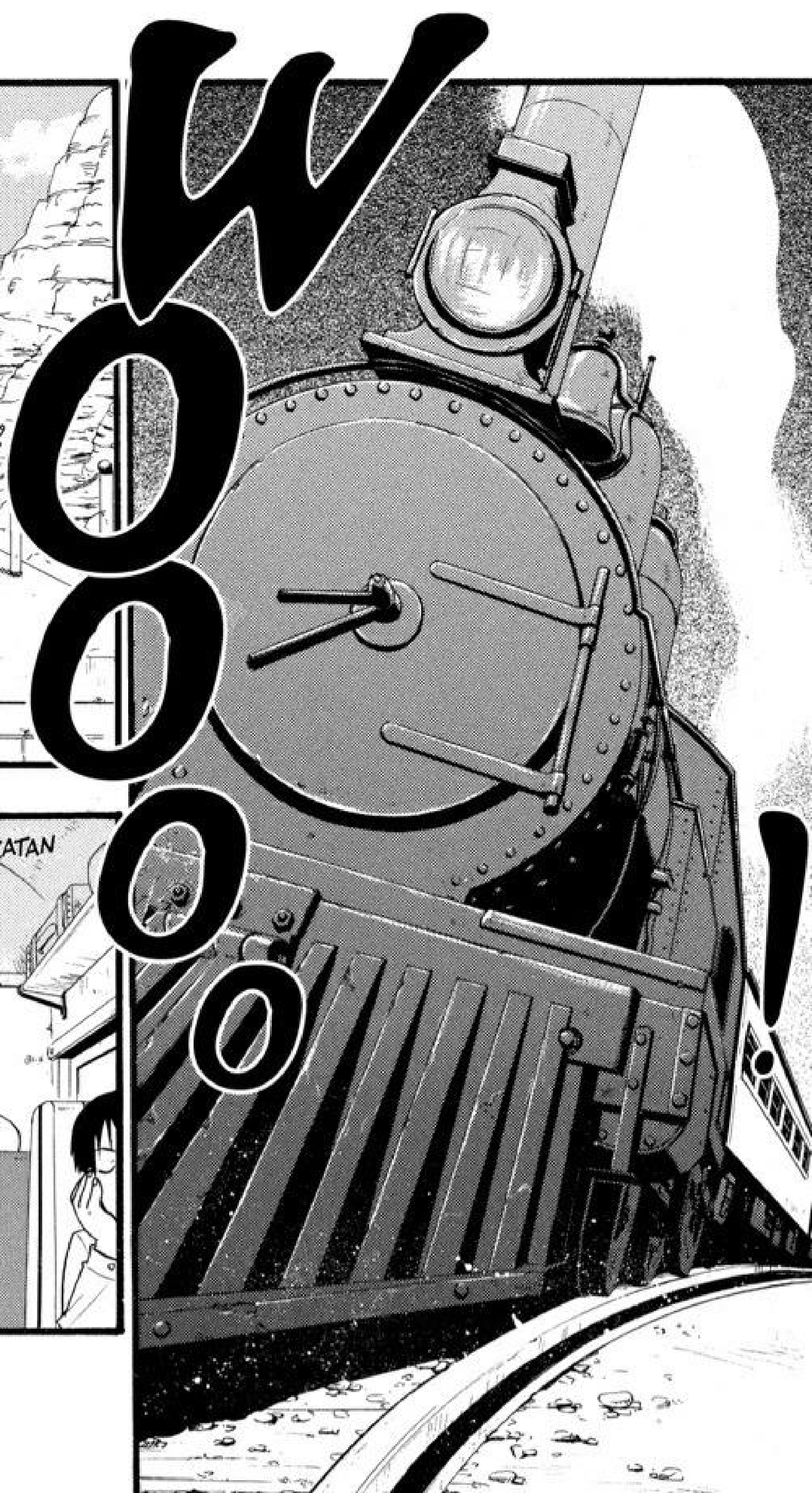
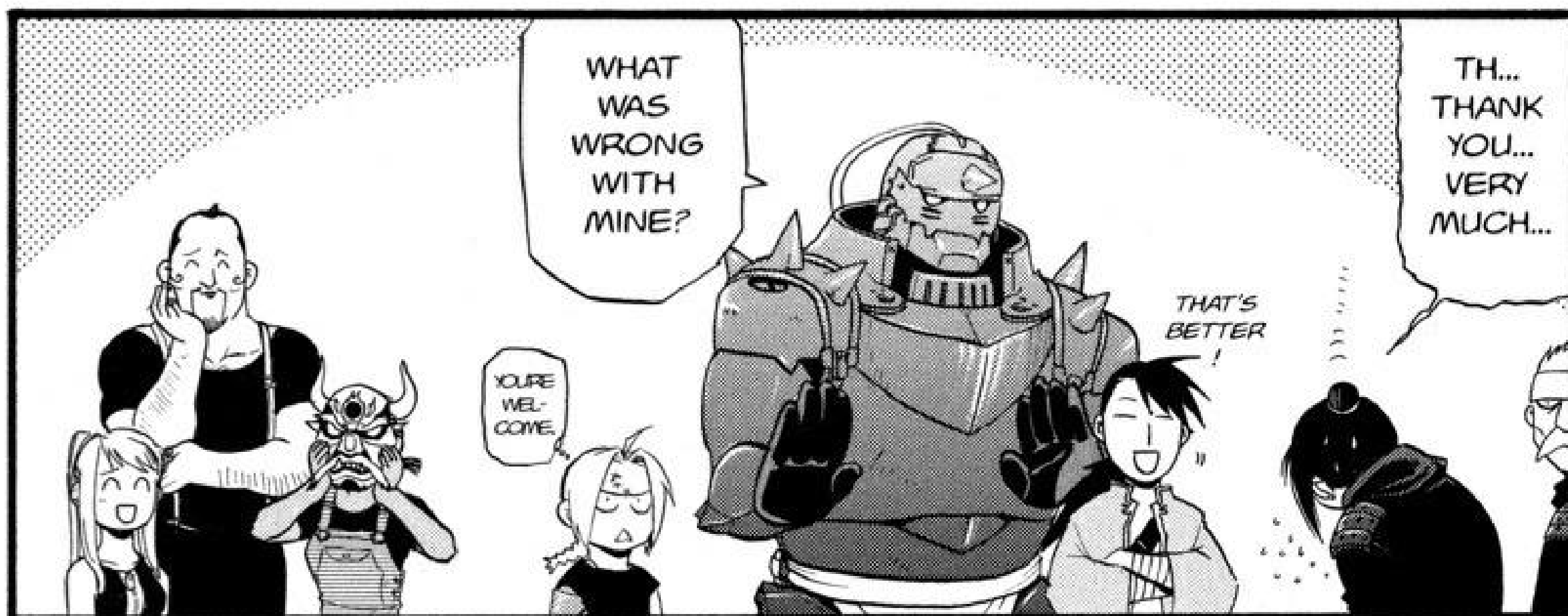
Chapter 34

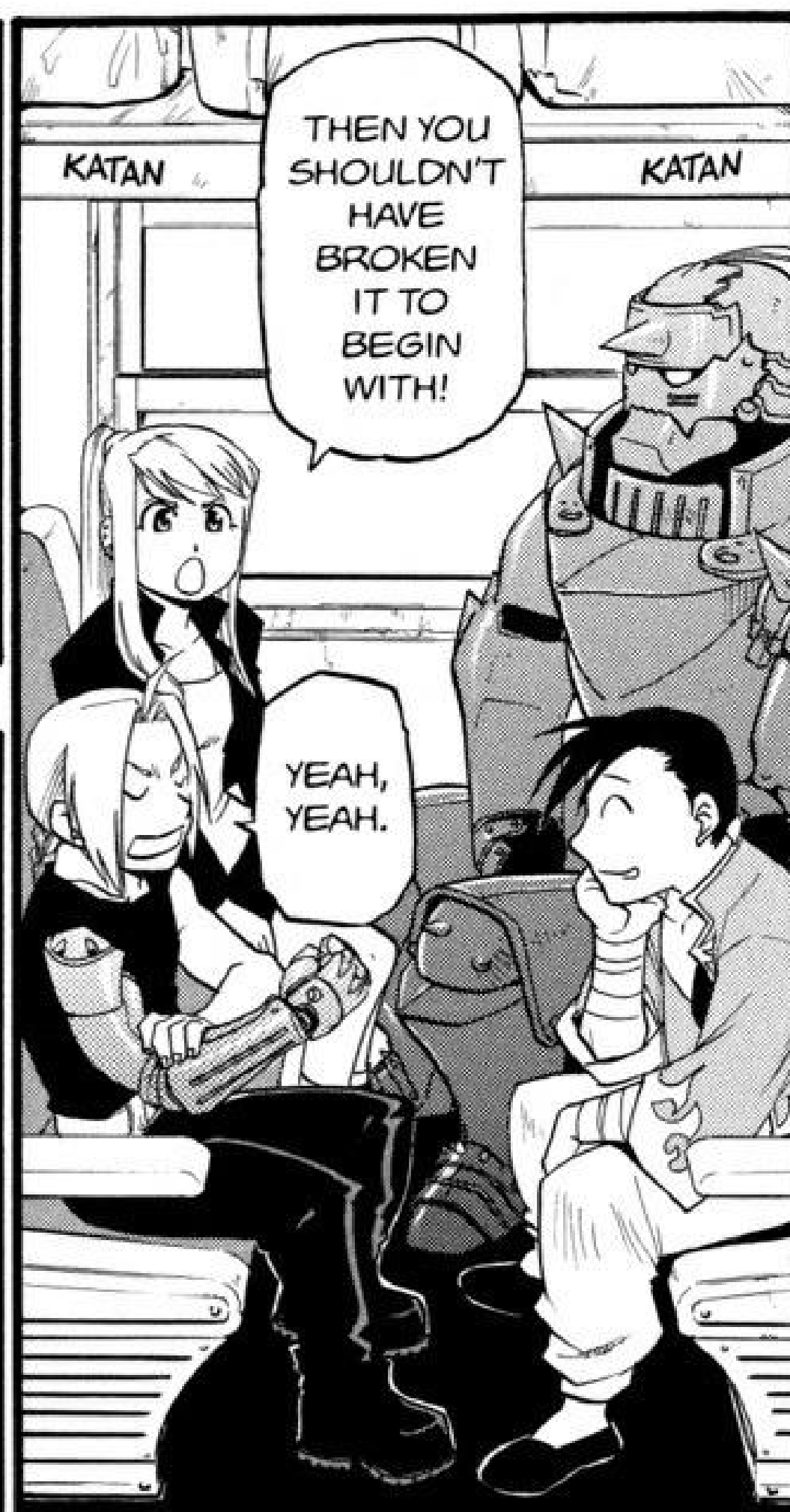
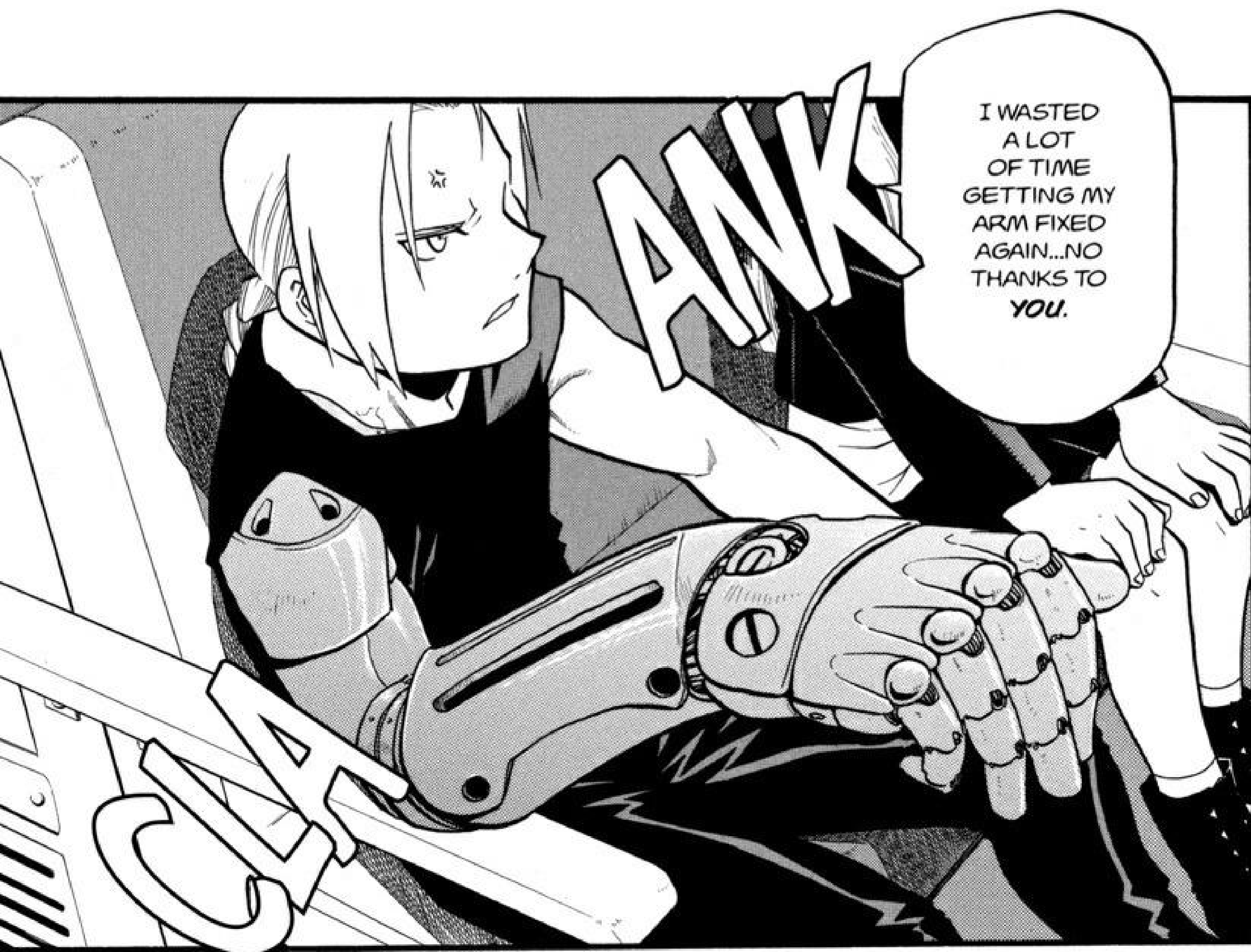
The Footsteps of a War Comrade

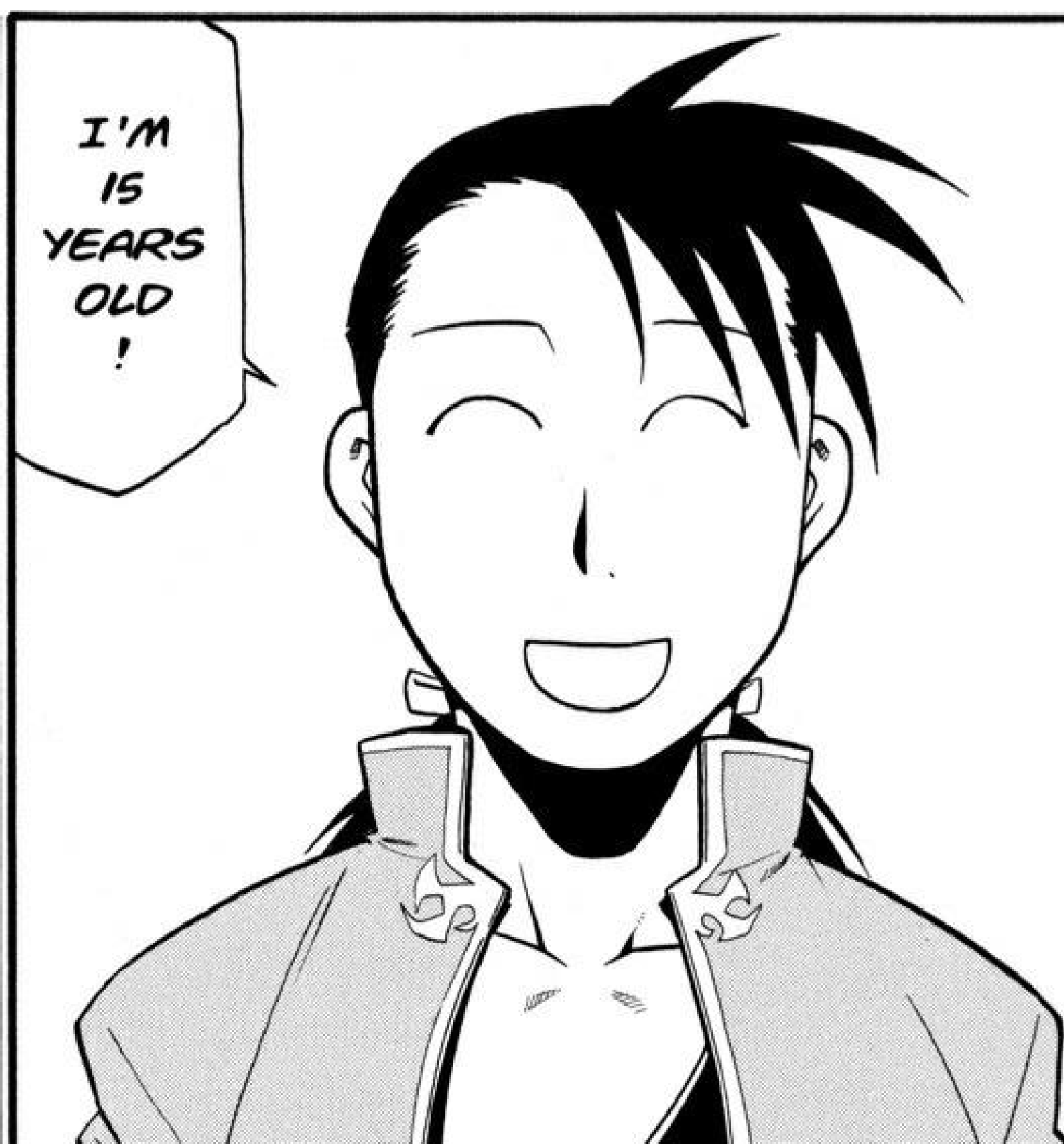
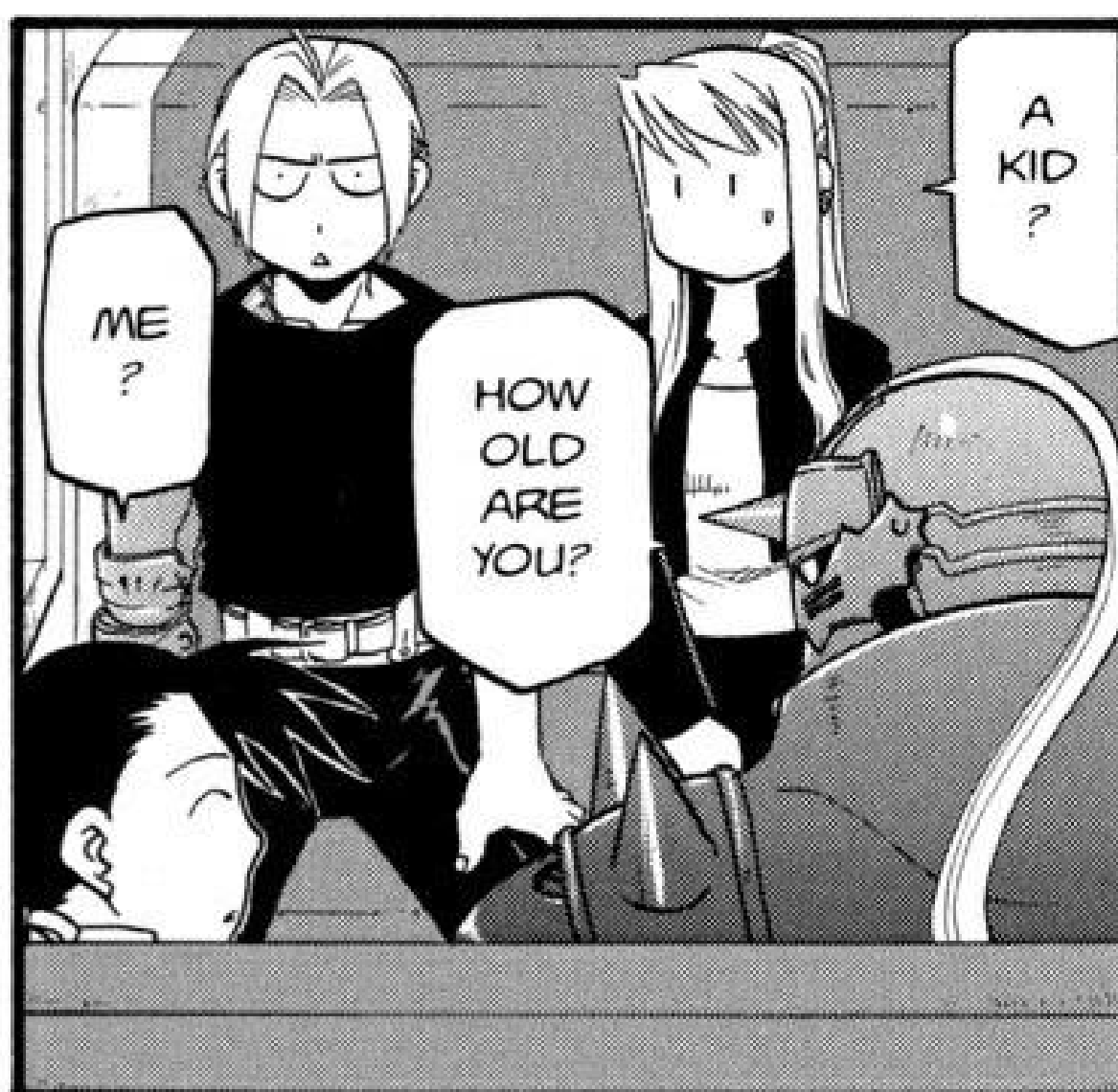


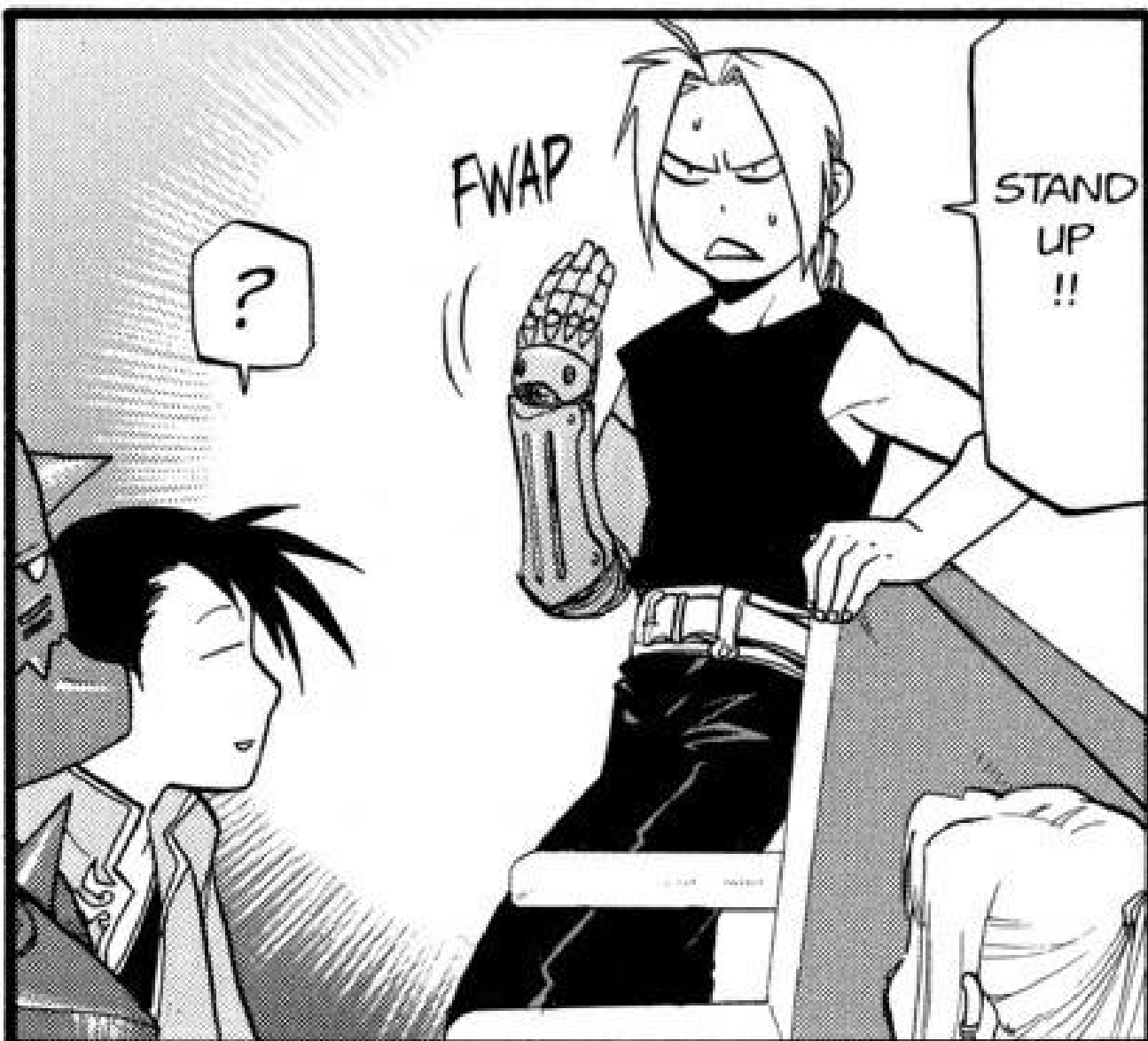
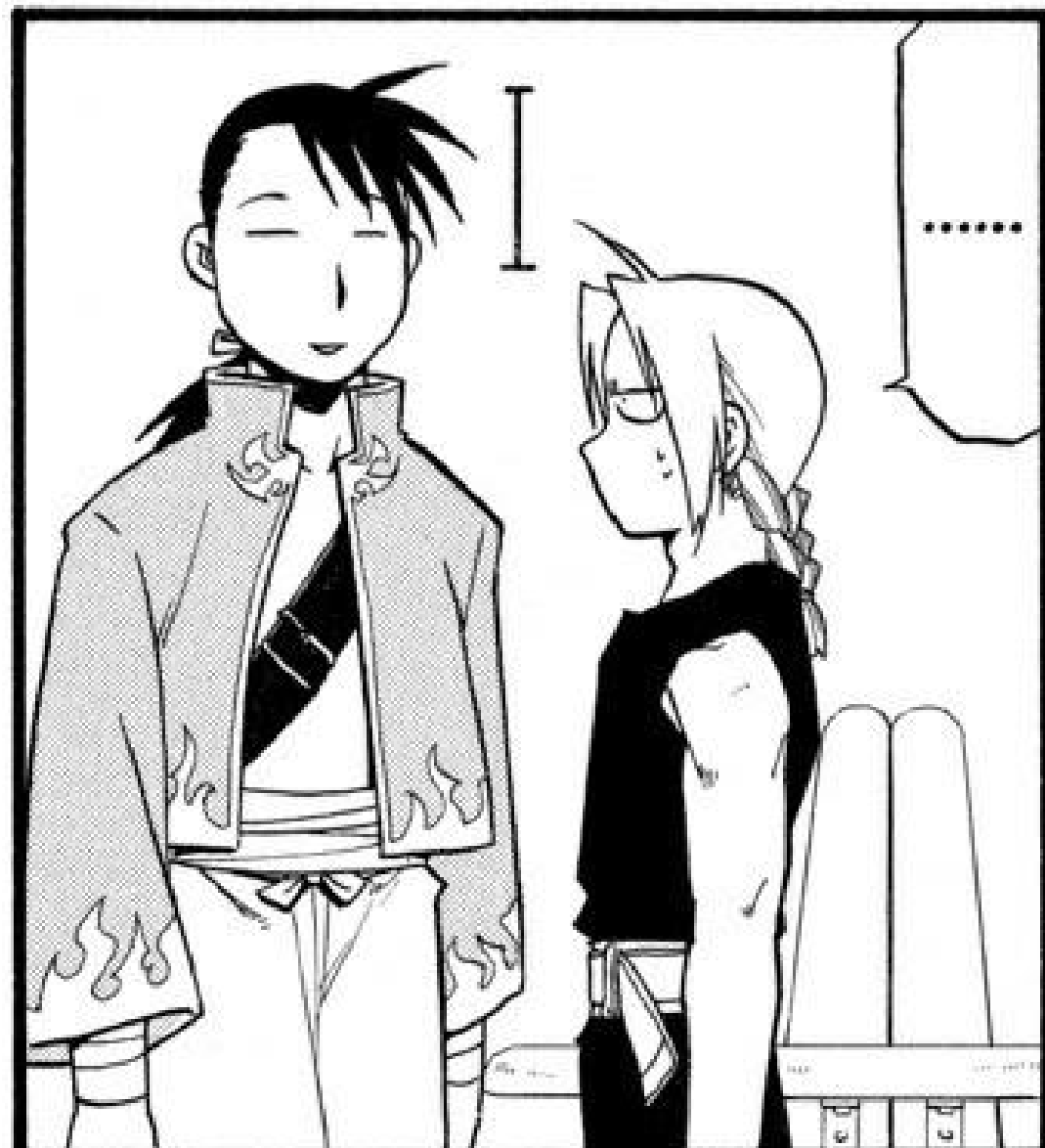
FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST



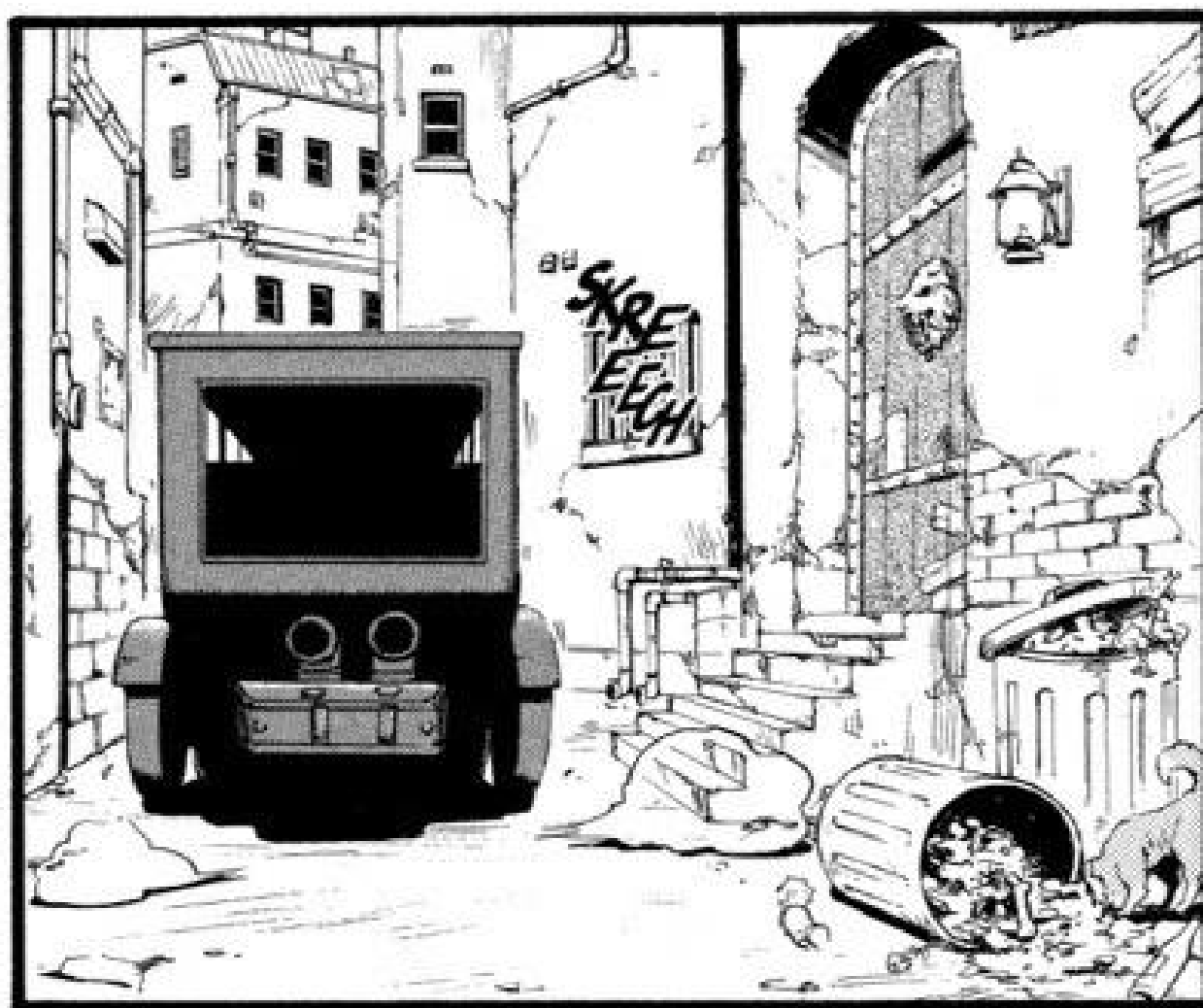
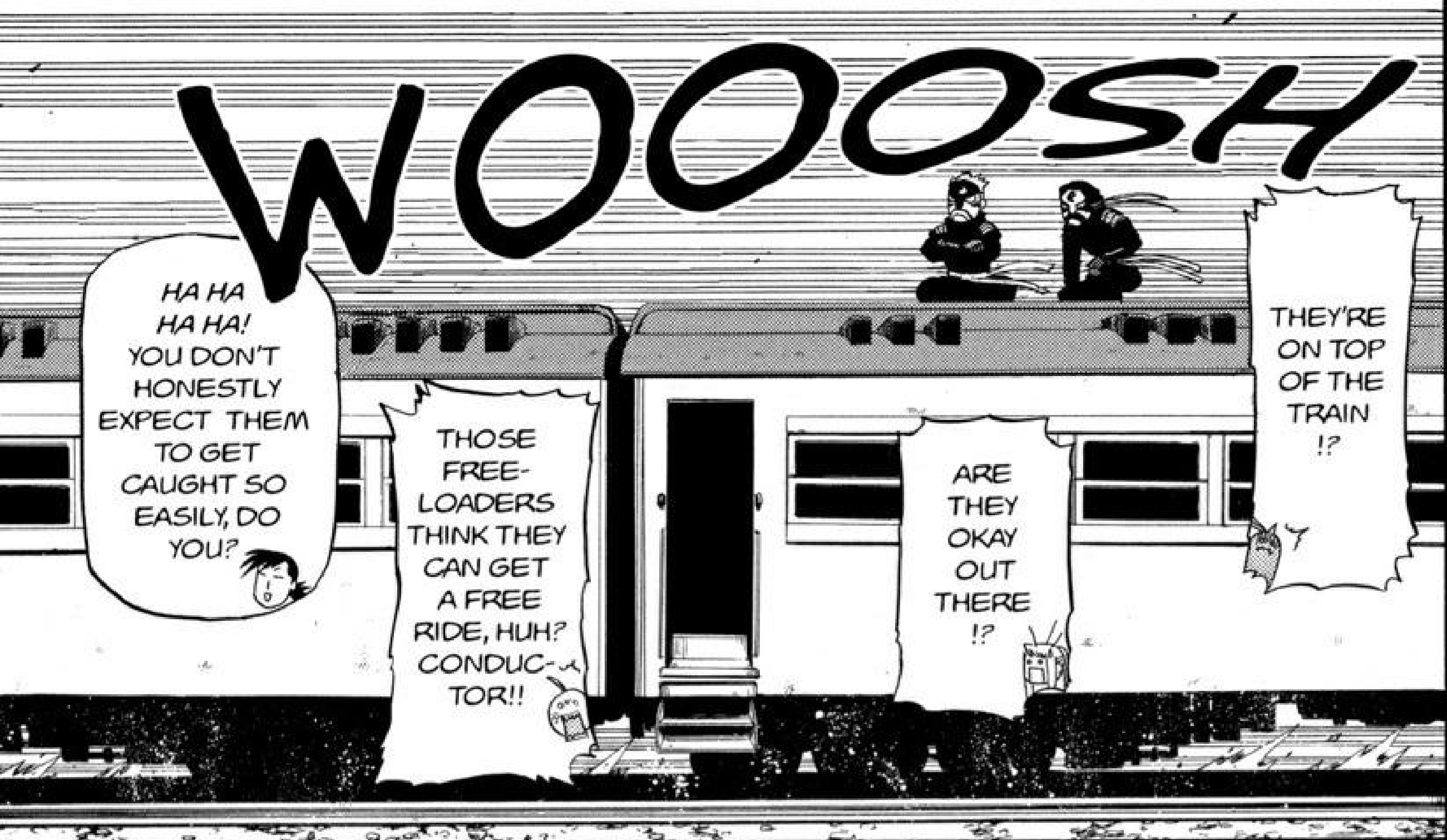






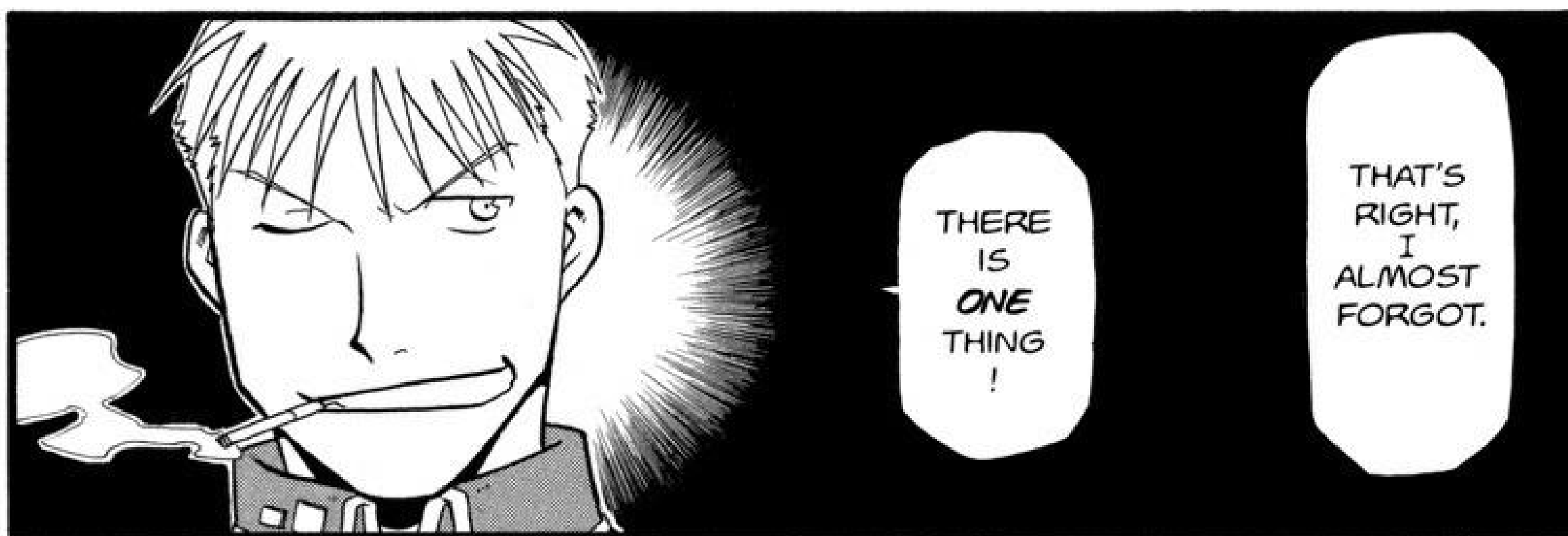


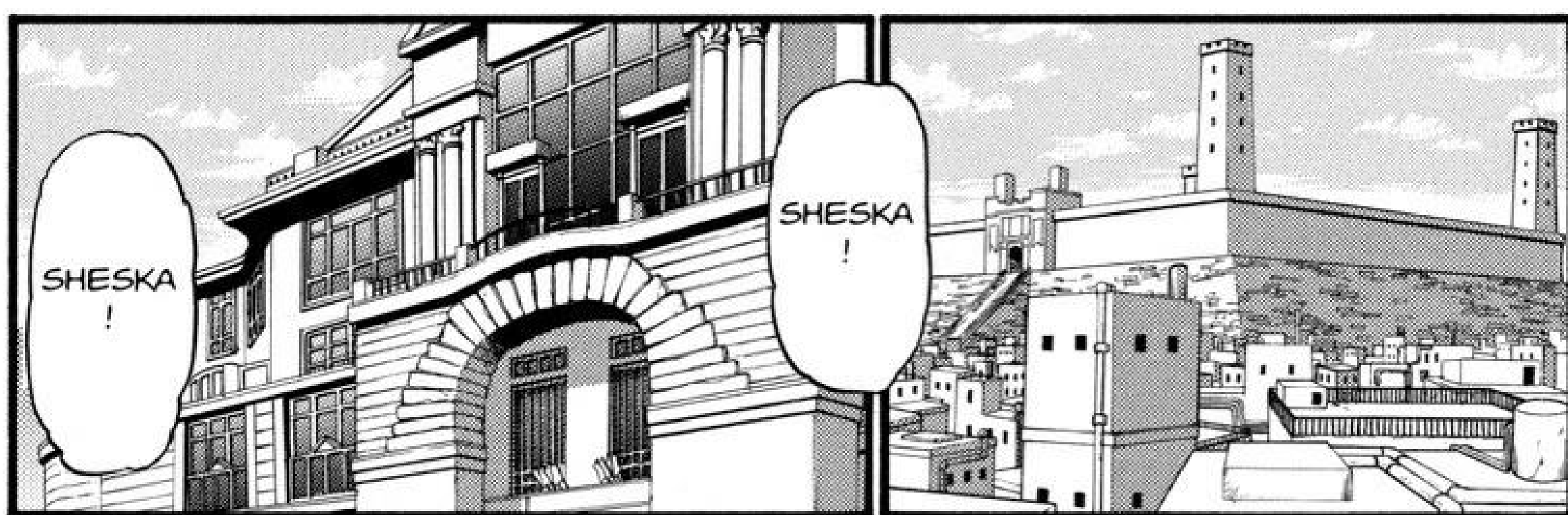














GIVE ME THE KEY.

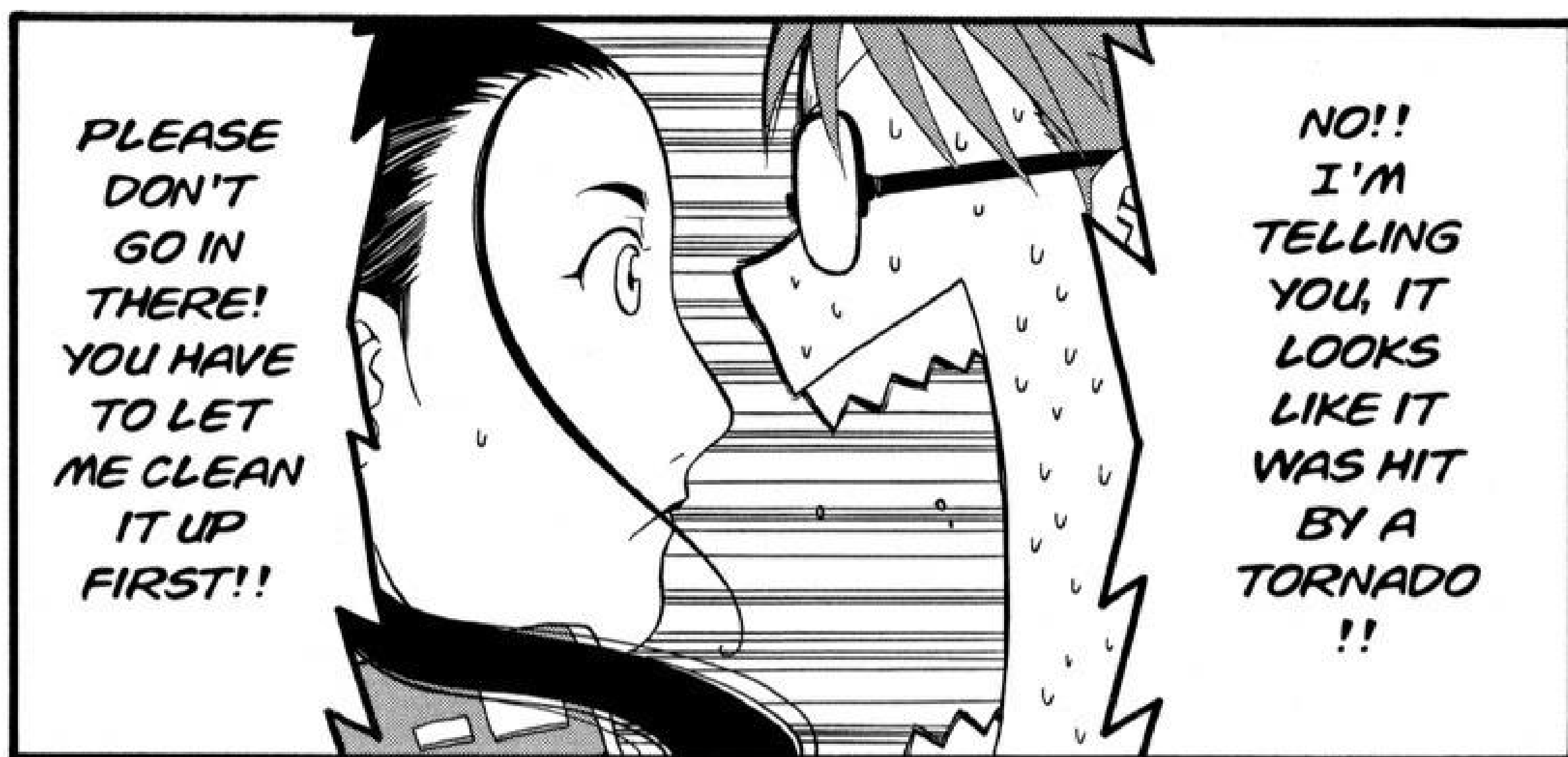
THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I JUST NEED TO PICK UP A FEW DOCUMENTS.

IT'S...UM... IT'S STILL CLUTTERED FROM WHEN I USED IT.

NUMBER THREE IS...

OH !!

YES I...



PLEASE DON'T GO IN THERE! YOU HAVE TO LET ME CLEAN IT UP FIRST!!

NO!! I'M TELLING YOU, IT LOOKS LIKE IT WAS HIT BY A TORNADO !!



KREEAK

HELLO... ?

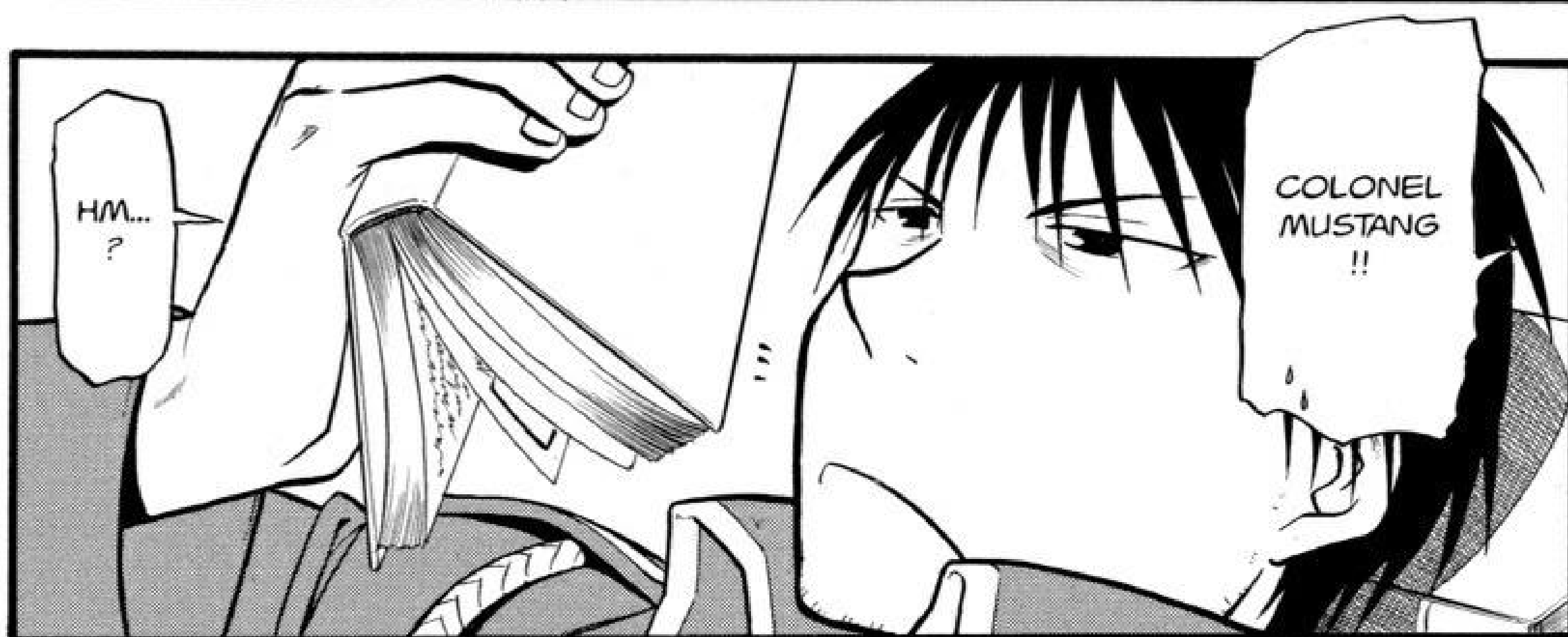


PHEW...



Y-Y-Y-YES, MA'AM !!!

ER.. I SUPPOSE I'LL COME BACK LATER, THEN. MAKE SURE IT'S IN ORDER BEFORE I GET BACK.







UM...

UH...

WHAT'S THE COLONEL DOING HERE?

THAT IS...



GOOD MORNING, SHESKA.

G-GOOD MORNING, CAPTAIN FOCKER.



I'M VERY SORRY, SIR. SORRY! SORRY!

YOU REALIZE YOU'RE ONLY SUPPOSED TO OPEN IT FOR AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL.



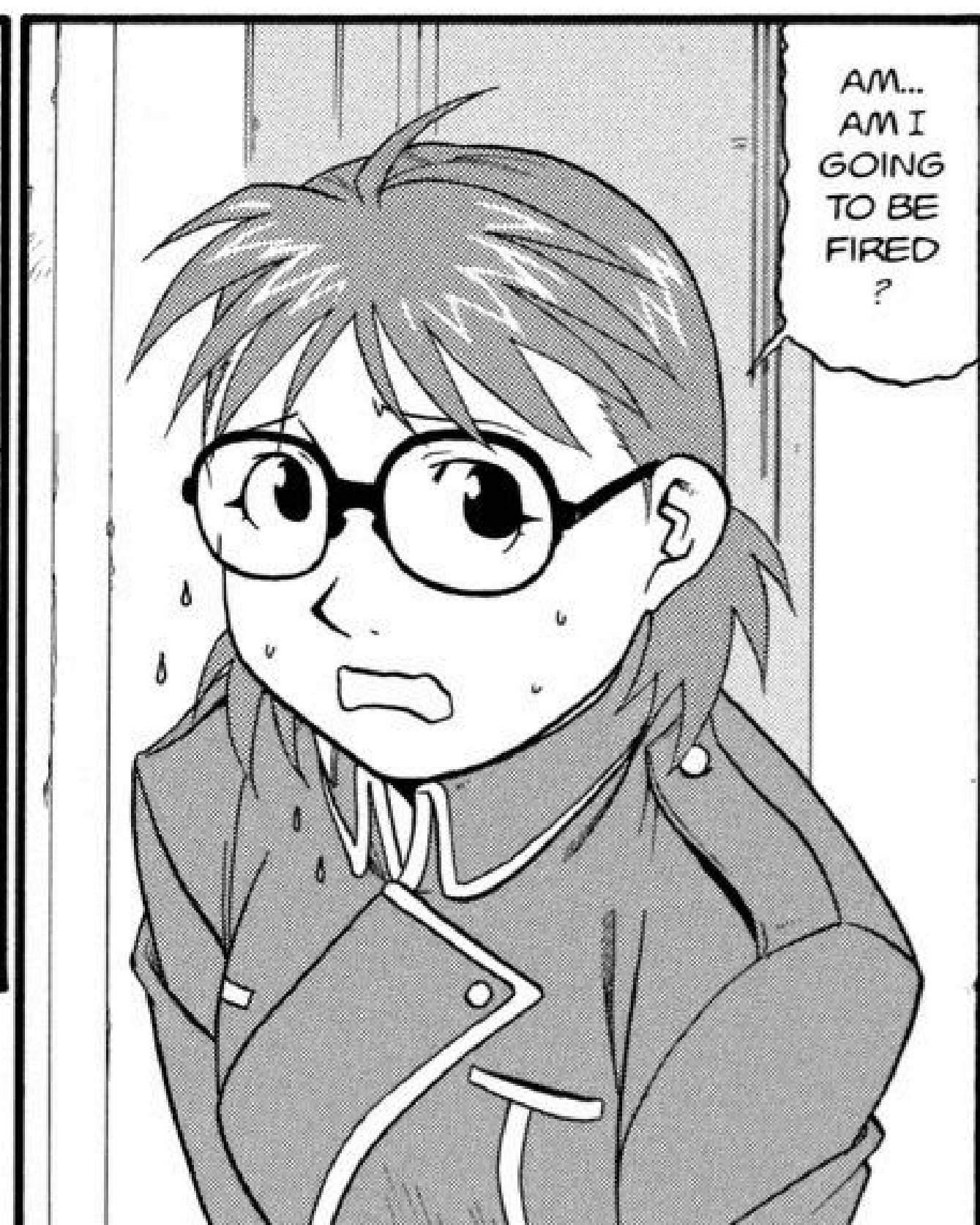
THE RECORDS ROOM IS OPEN.

WAAAH!!

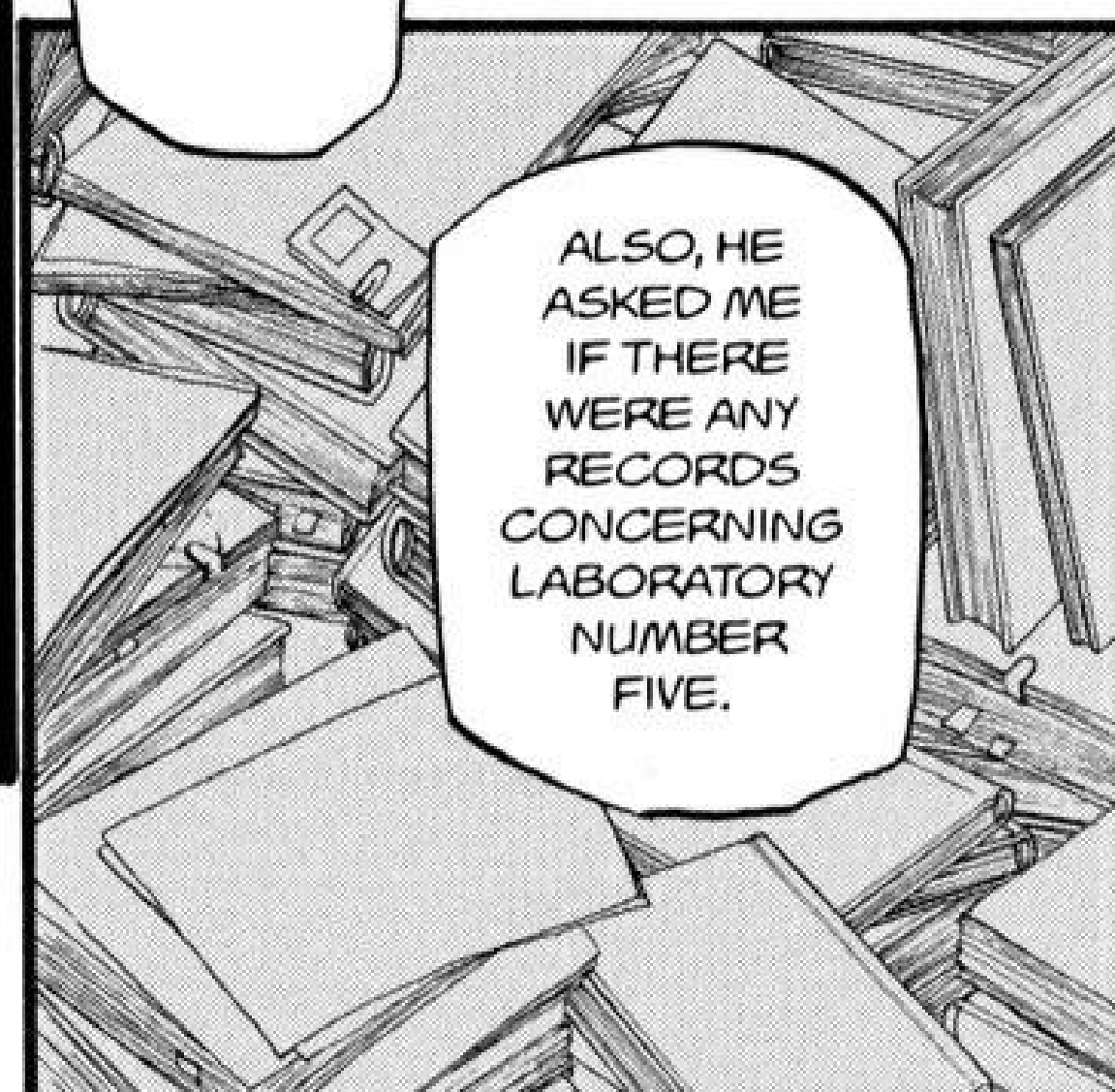
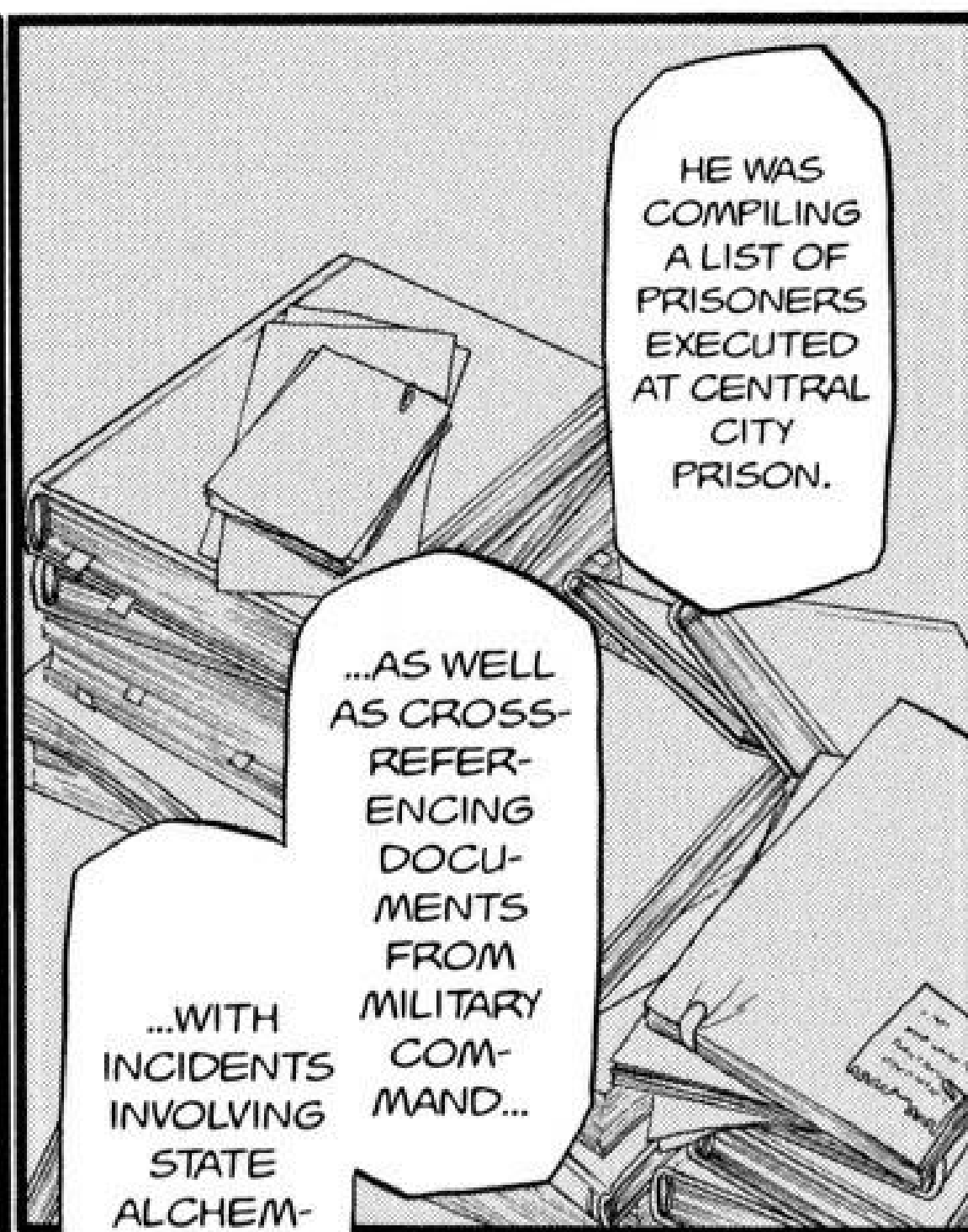


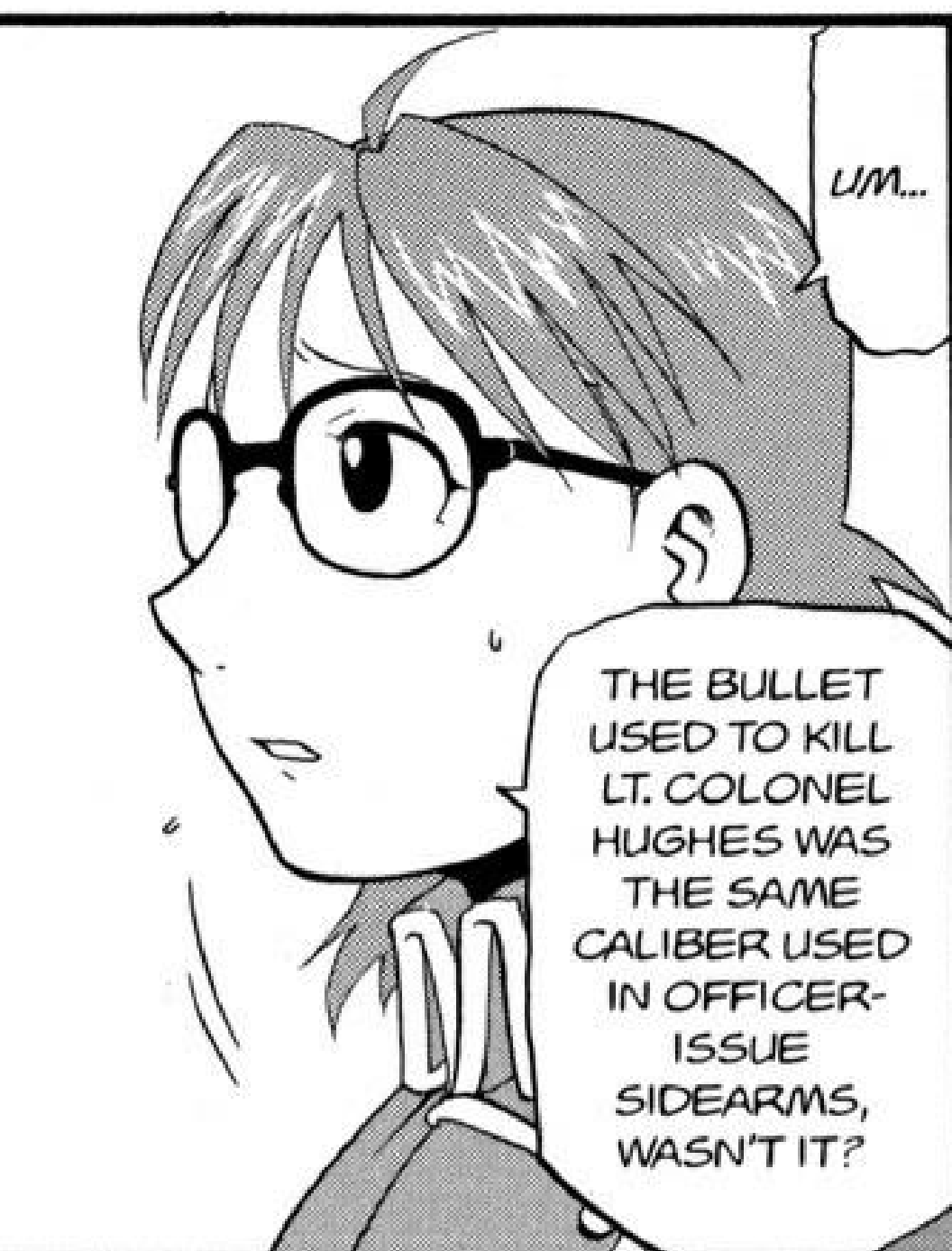
I WON'T REPORT THIS. JUST DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN.

THE COLONEL PRESURED YOU, DIDN'T HE?



AM... AM I GOING TO BE FIRED?





UM...

THE BULLET
USED TO KILL
LT. COLONEL
HUGHES WAS
THE SAME
CALIBER USED
IN OFFICER-
ISSUE
SIDEARMS,
WASN'T IT?



HM...



HE
SEEMED
SO
DES-
OPENED PERATE
THE THAT I...
DOOR... UH...



NONE
OF
THIS
AFFECTS
YOU.

DON'T
WORRY.



HOW
COULD
SUCH A
KIND
PERSON
BE...

I'M
SCARED...



COULD
THE
CULPRIT
BE
AMONG
THE
OFFICERS
HERE IN
CENTRAL
CITY?

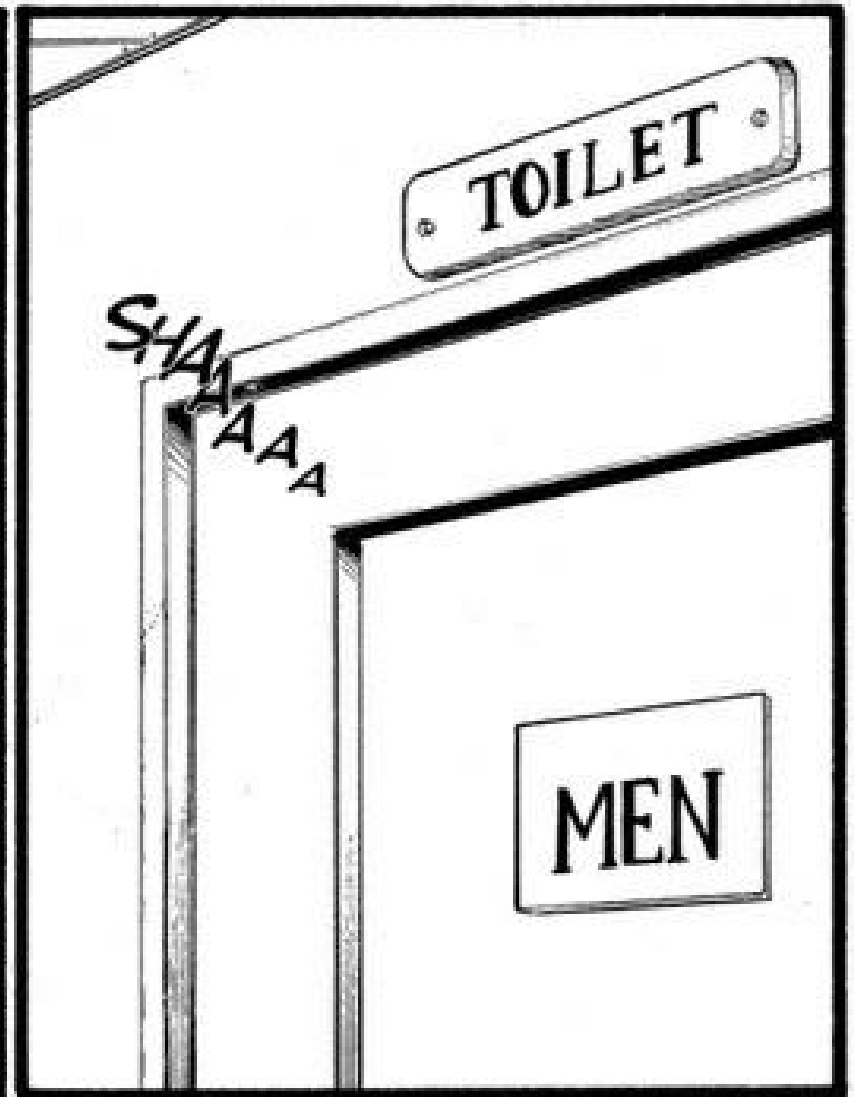
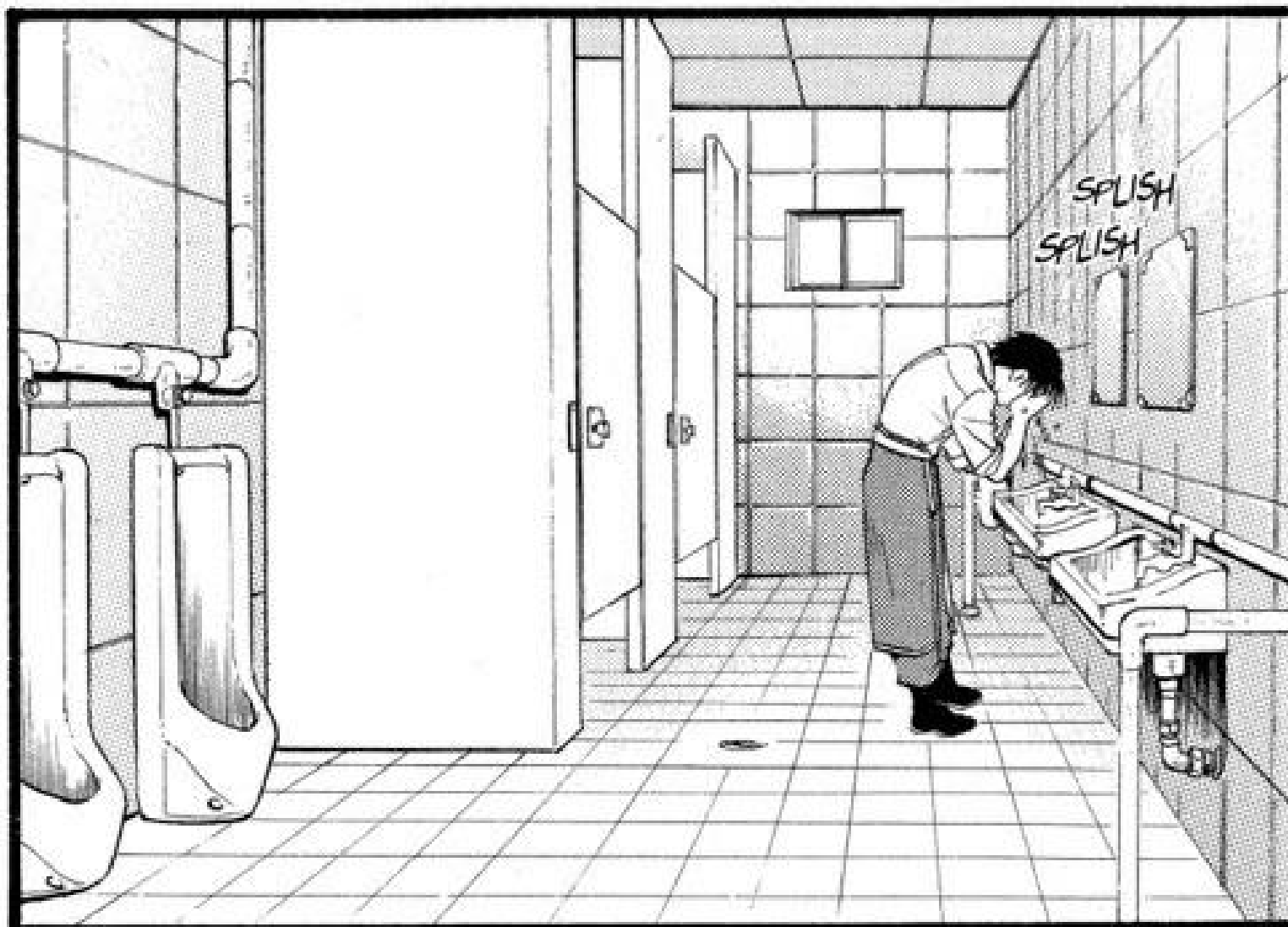
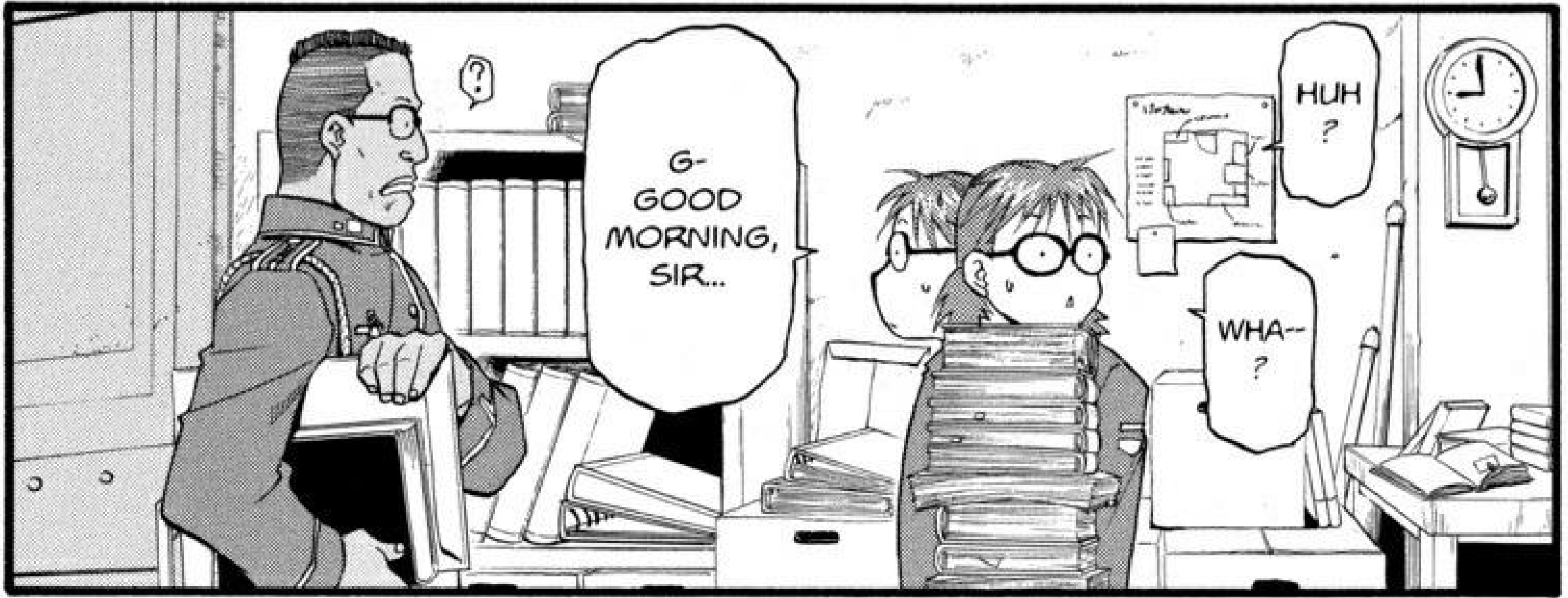


YES,
SIR.

I'M
COUNT-
ING
ON
YOU.

ANYWAY, I
KNOW YOU
HAVE A
MOUNTAIN
OF PAPER-
WORK
TO GET
THROUGH.









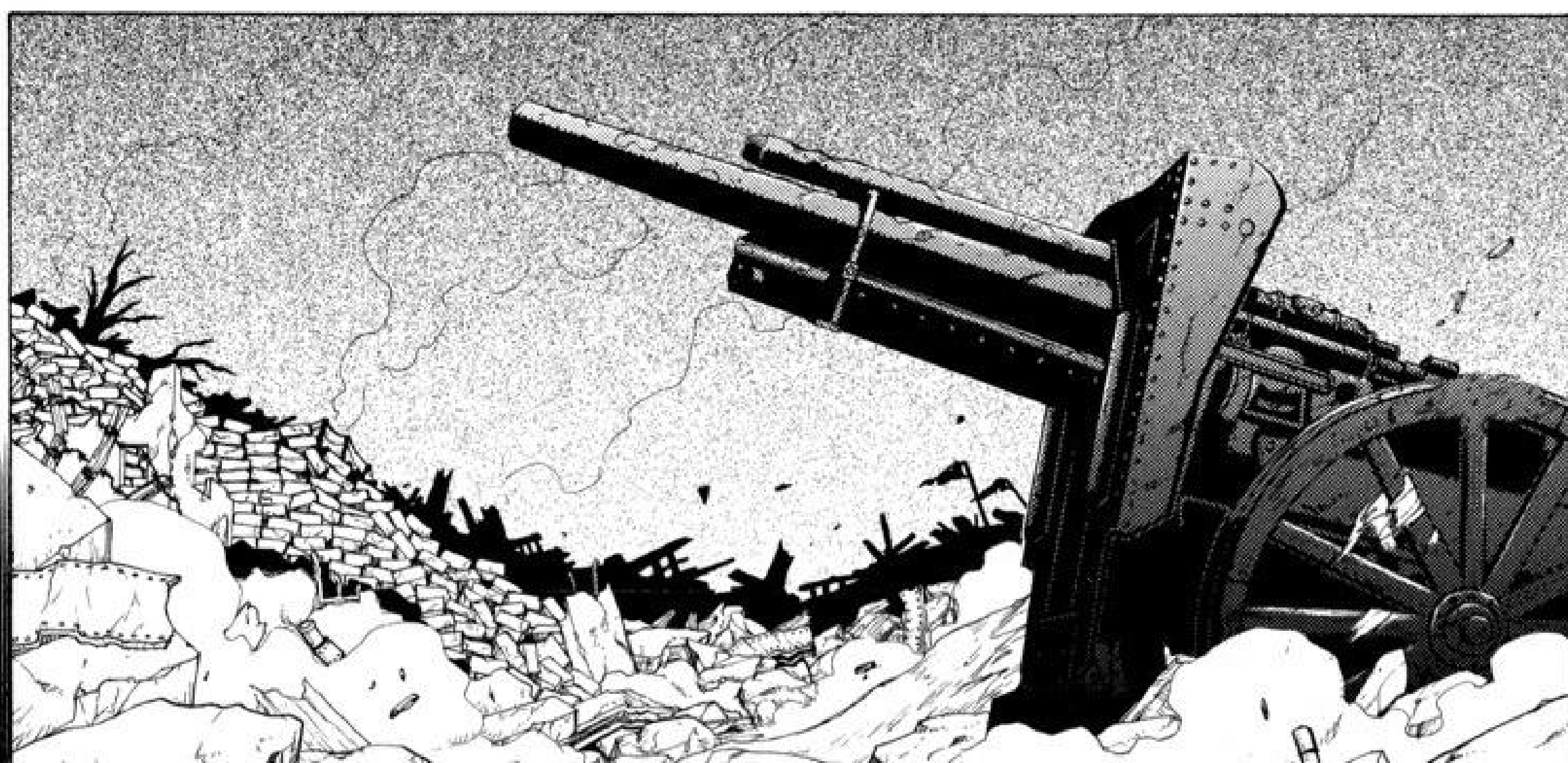
I GUESS THAT MEANS HE'S STAYING A DOG OF THE MILITARY.



IS THAT SO?

THAT'S RIGHT. I RAN INTO THE ELCRIC BROTHERS.

THEY WERE AT SOUTH HQ FOR EDWARD'S ASSESSMENT.





WHY
MUST WE
CONTINUE
FIGHTING
IN THIS
BRUTAL
WAR!?!



WHY,
GOD,
WHY
!?!



BECAUSE
THAT'S THE
JOB OF
STATE
ALCHEMISTS.



ISN'T THAT
RIGHT,
MAJOR
MUSTANG
?

DISOBEYING
ORDERS
IS THE
SMARTEST
WAY TO GET
AWAY FROM
THIS DAMN
BATTLE-
FIELD.



MAJOR
ARMSTRONG
DISOBEYED
ORDERS.

HE'LL BE
RECALLED
TO
CENTRAL
SOON.



WHEN A PERSON
IS SUBJECTED
TO CONTINUOUS
EXPLOSIONS AND
STORMS OF
BULLETS, HIS
EMOTIONS ARE
OVERLOADED
AND HIS
BODY BECOMES
PARALYZED.

IT'S
SHELL-
SHOCK



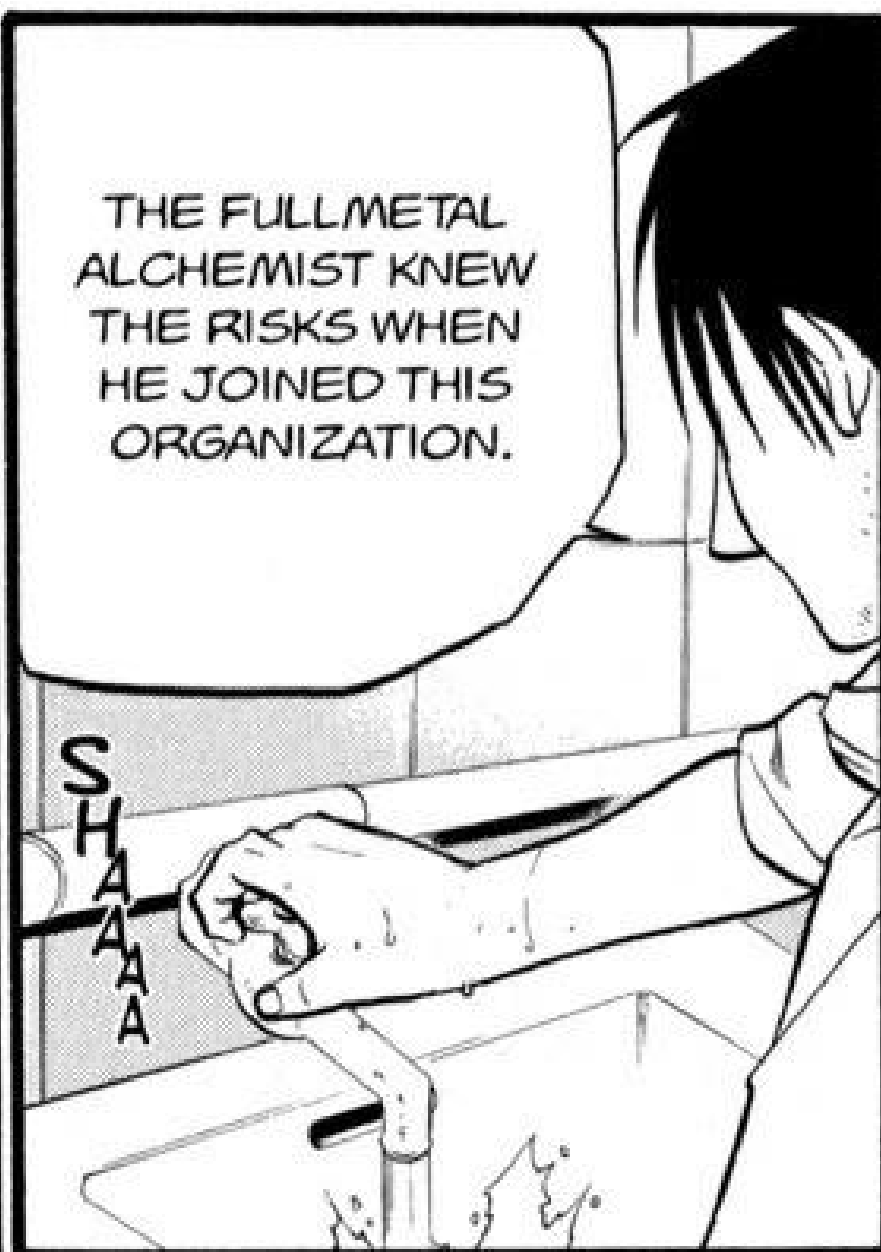
I
LIKE
GUNS.

BECAUSE
UNLIKE
WITH
SWORDS
AND
KNIVES,
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
FEEL YOUR
VICTIM
DIE.





WE CAN'T
ALLOW
EXCEPTIONS,
EVEN FOR
THE YOUNG
AND
FOOLISH.



THE FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST KNEW
THE RISKS WHEN
HE JOINED THIS
ORGANIZATION.



NO ONE
WANTS
TO LIVE
IN A
WORLD
LIKE
THAT.

THAT'S
IT
THEN ?
COLD
HARD
LOGIC ?



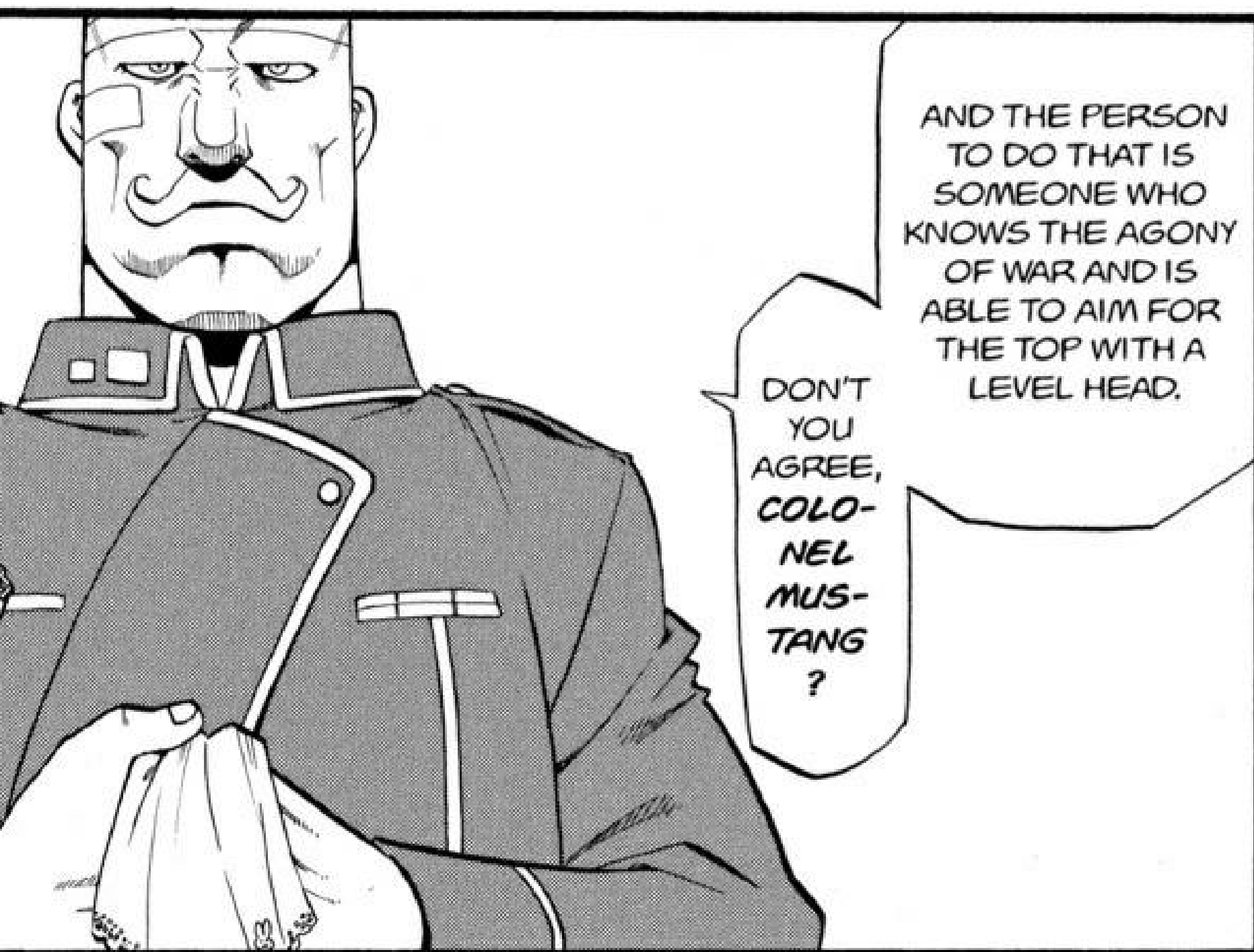
I'M
NOT
DE-
NOUNCING
IT.

BUT I WANT
MY OWN
STRENGTH TO
BE USED TO
PROTECT THE
CITIZENS
OF THIS
COUNTRY
WHO ARE
WEAK AND
POWER-
LESS.

YOU'RE A
SOLDIER
YET YOU
DENOUNCE
THIS
MILITARY
STATE?



WOULD
YOU
REALLY
THROW
A
YOUNG
BOY
INTO A
PLACE
LIKE
THAT?



AND THE PERSON
TO DO THAT IS
SOMEONE WHO
KNOWS THE AGONY
OF WAR AND IS
ABLE TO AIM FOR
THE TOP WITH A
LEVEL HEAD.

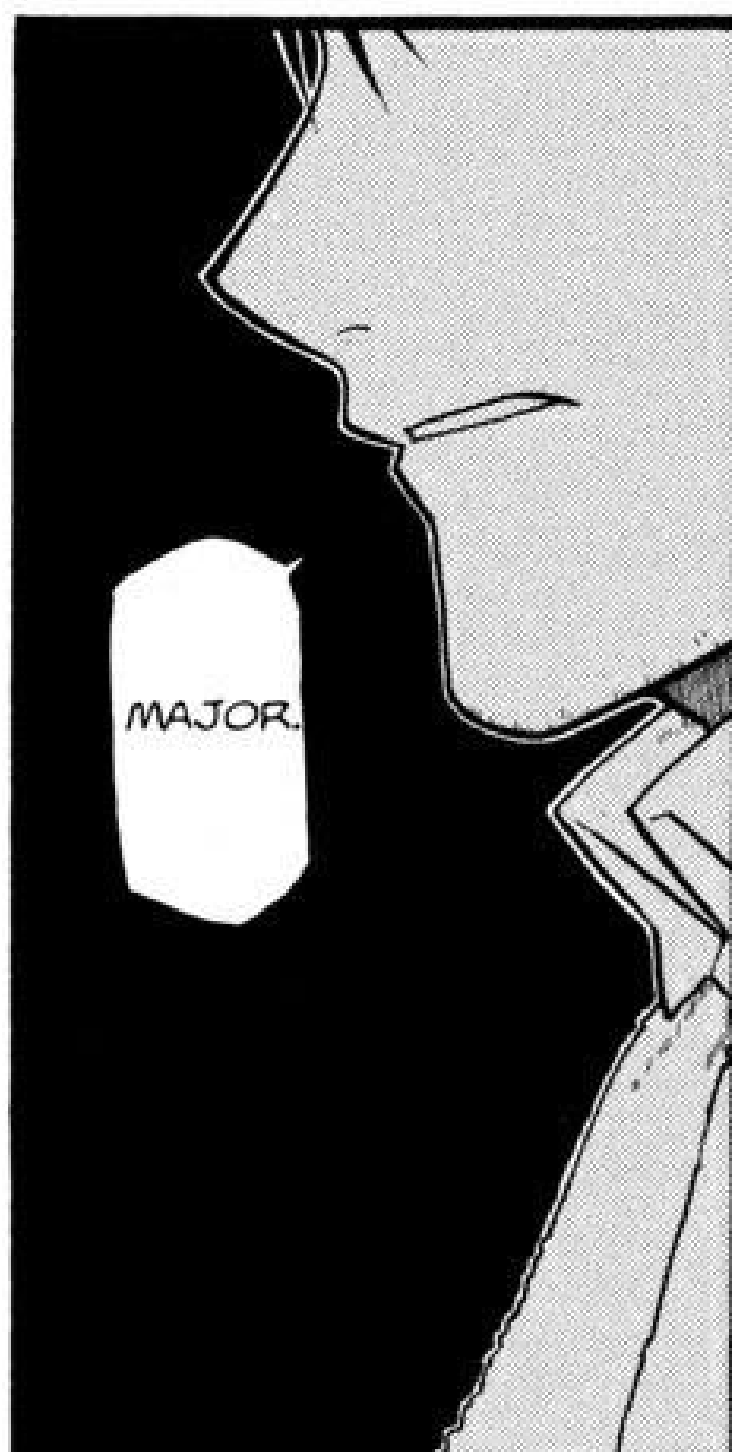
DON'T
YOU
AGREE,
**COLO-
NEL
MUS-
TANG**
?



NOW THAT
THIS COUNTRY
HAS GONE
THROUGH CIVIL
WAR, PERHAPS
IT'S TIME FOR
THINGS TO
CHANGE.



I
SIMPLY
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT.



MAJOR.

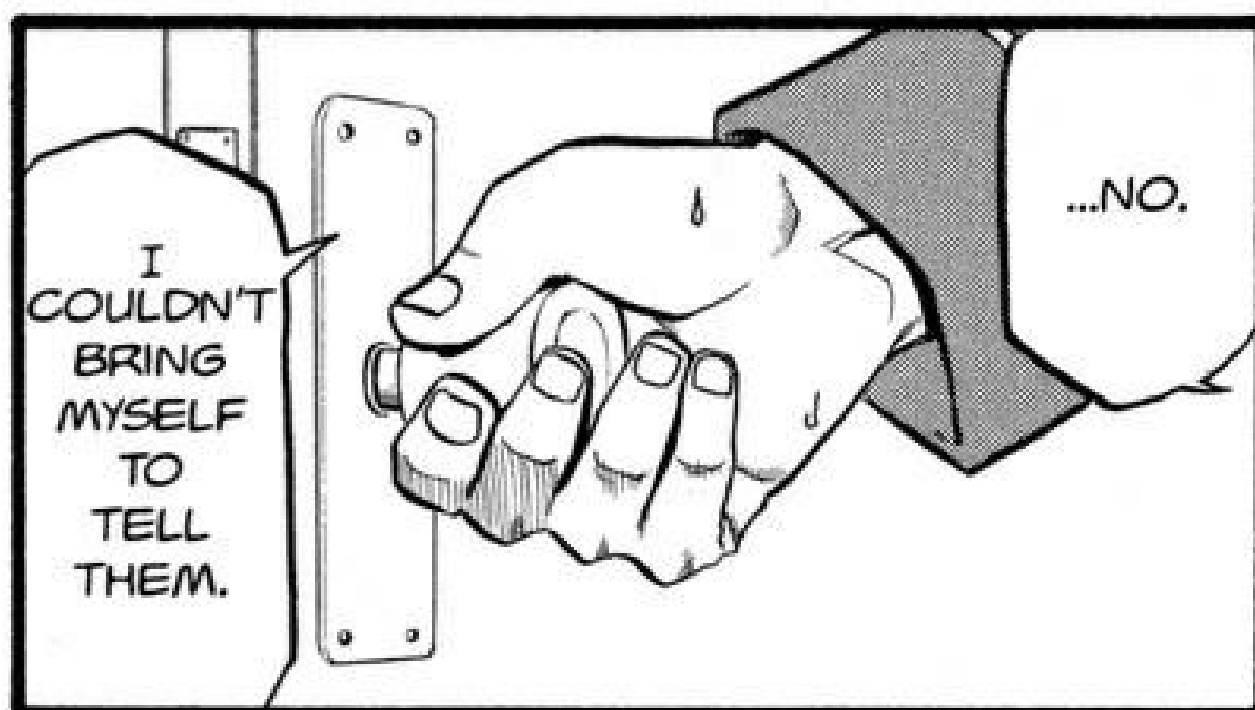


SEE
YOU
LATER.

HRM ...
I'VE
SAID
TOO
MUCH.



DID YOU
TELL THE
BROTHERS
ABOUT
HUGHES'S
DEATH?

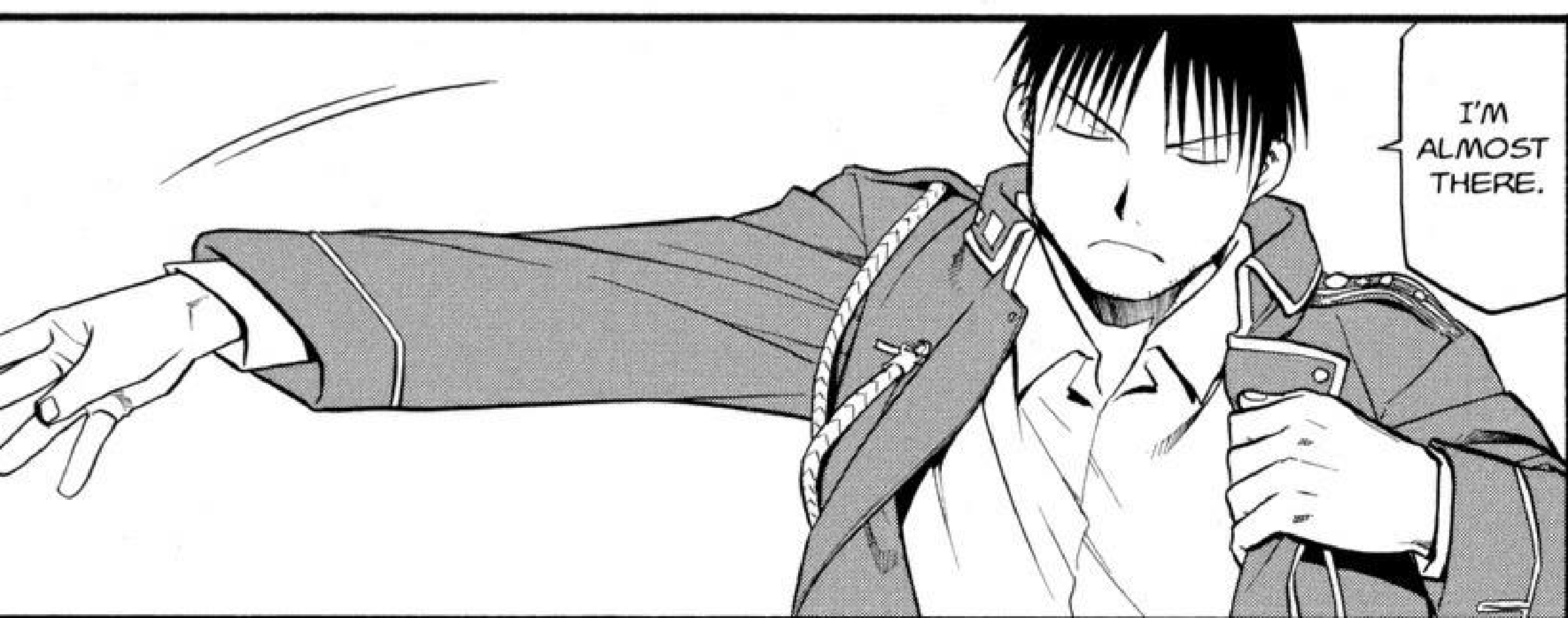
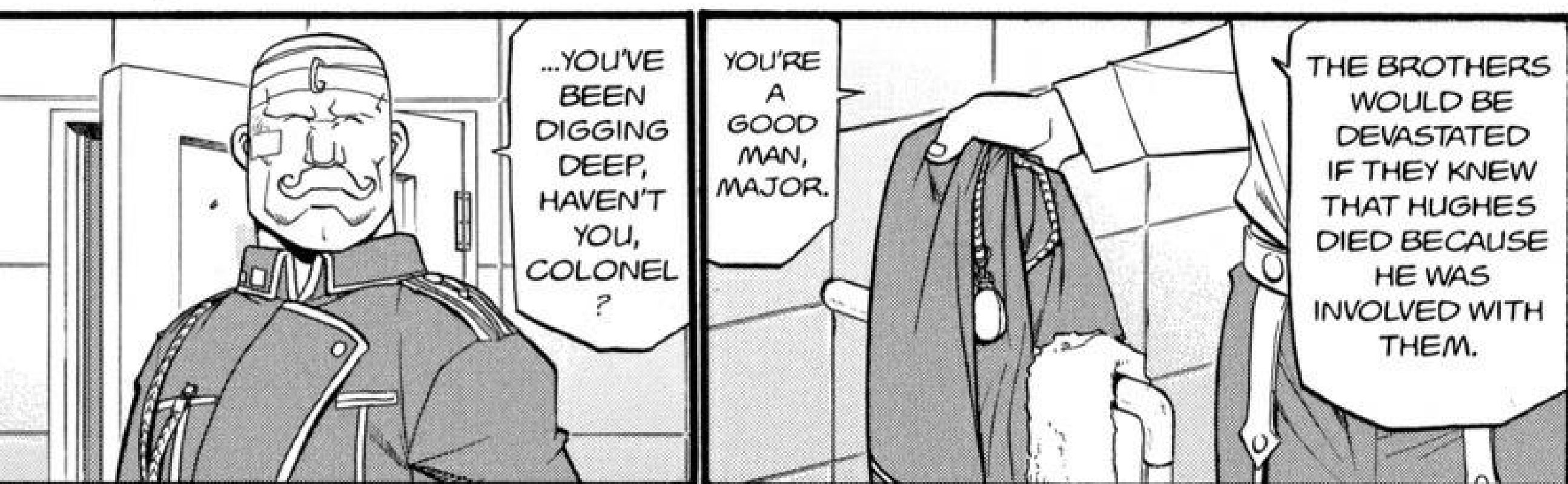


I
COULDN'T
BRING
MYSELF
TO
TELL
THEM.

...NO.



THEY'LL
FIND
OUT
SOONER
OR
LATER.





UH
HUH.

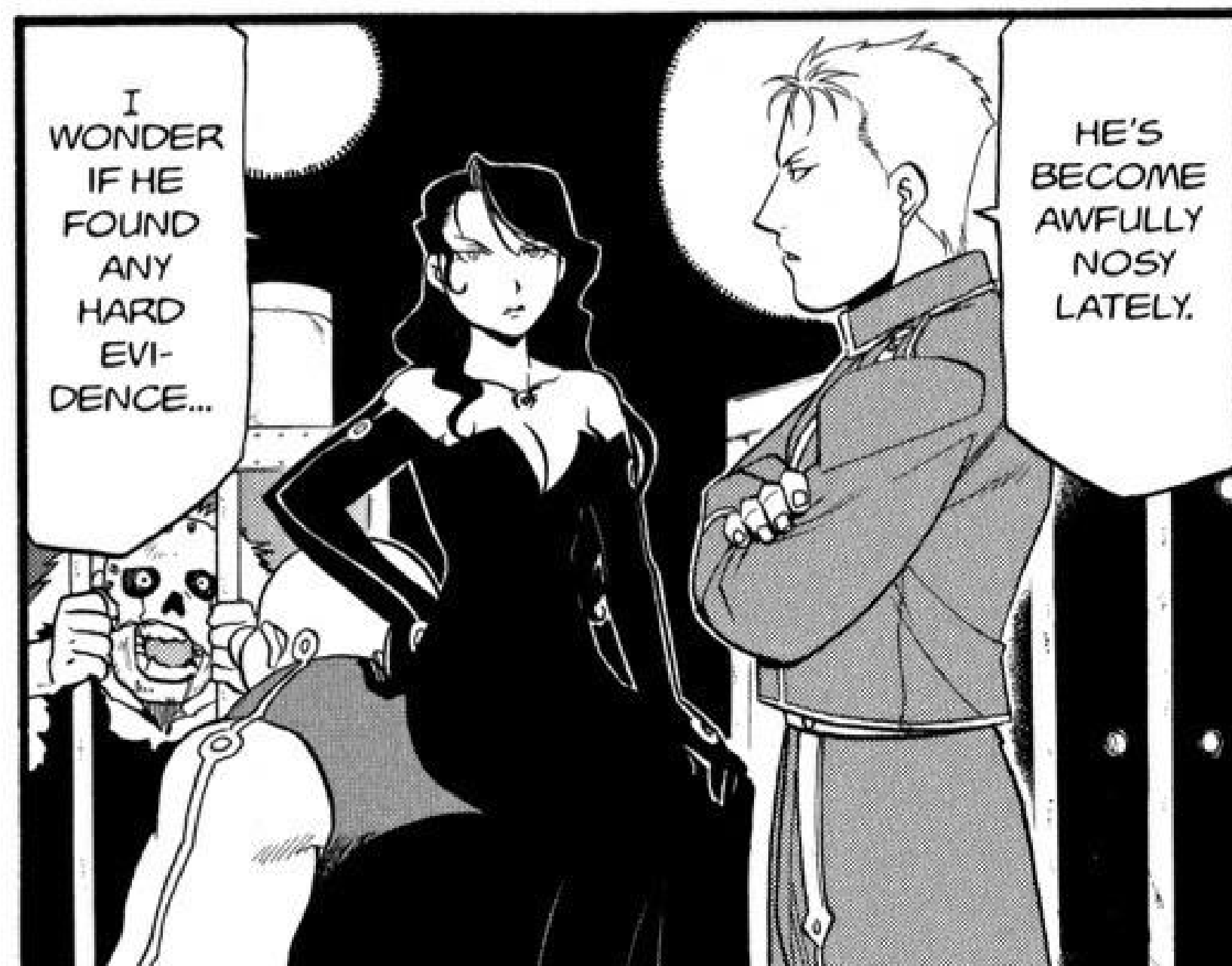
PLEASE
BE
CAREFUL.

YOU
NEVER
KNOW
WHO'S
LISTEN-
ING.



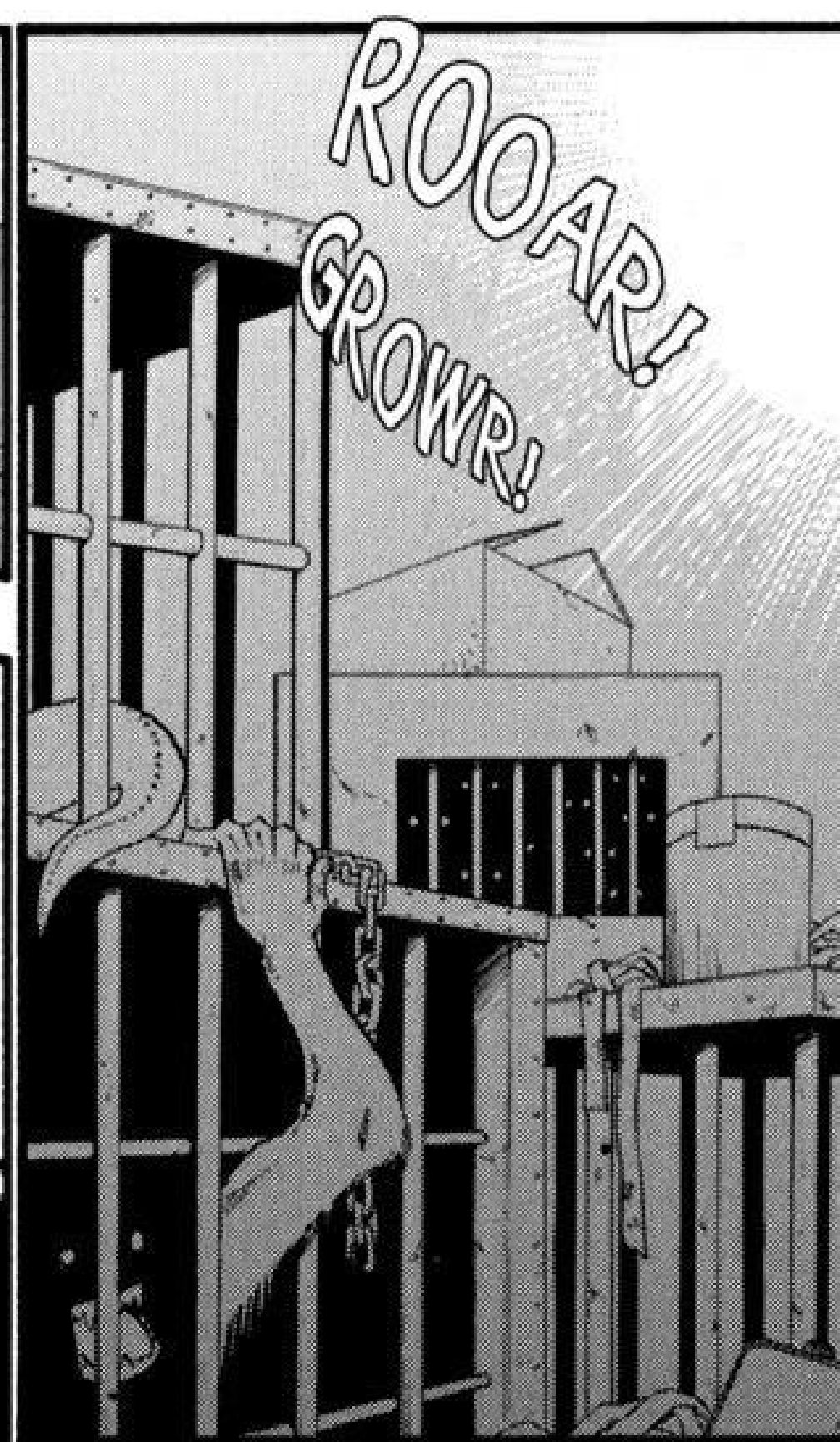
GRAARH!

SO...
COLONEL
MUSTANG
IS TRYING
TO FIND
OUT ABOUT
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO
HUGHES
?

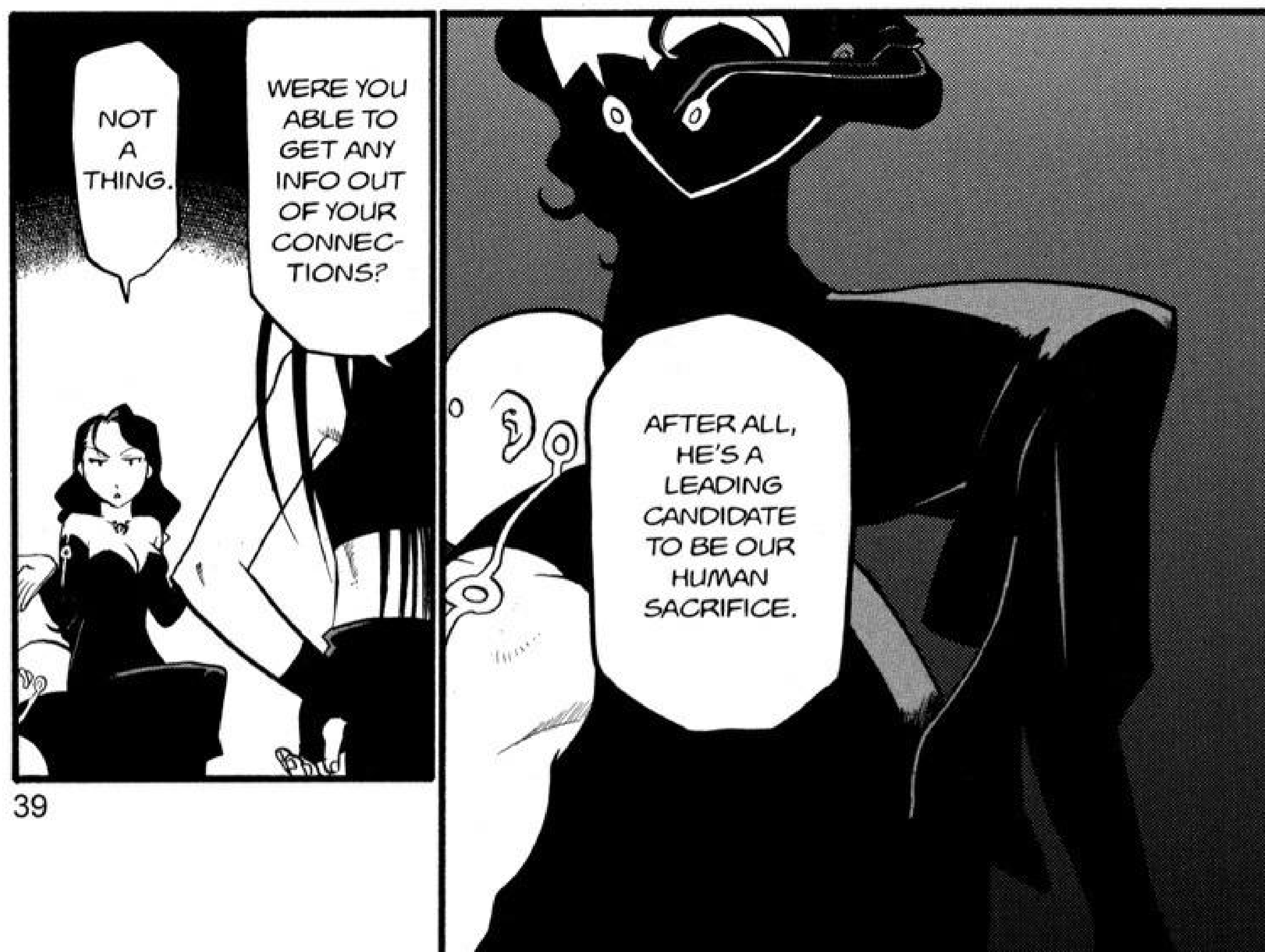


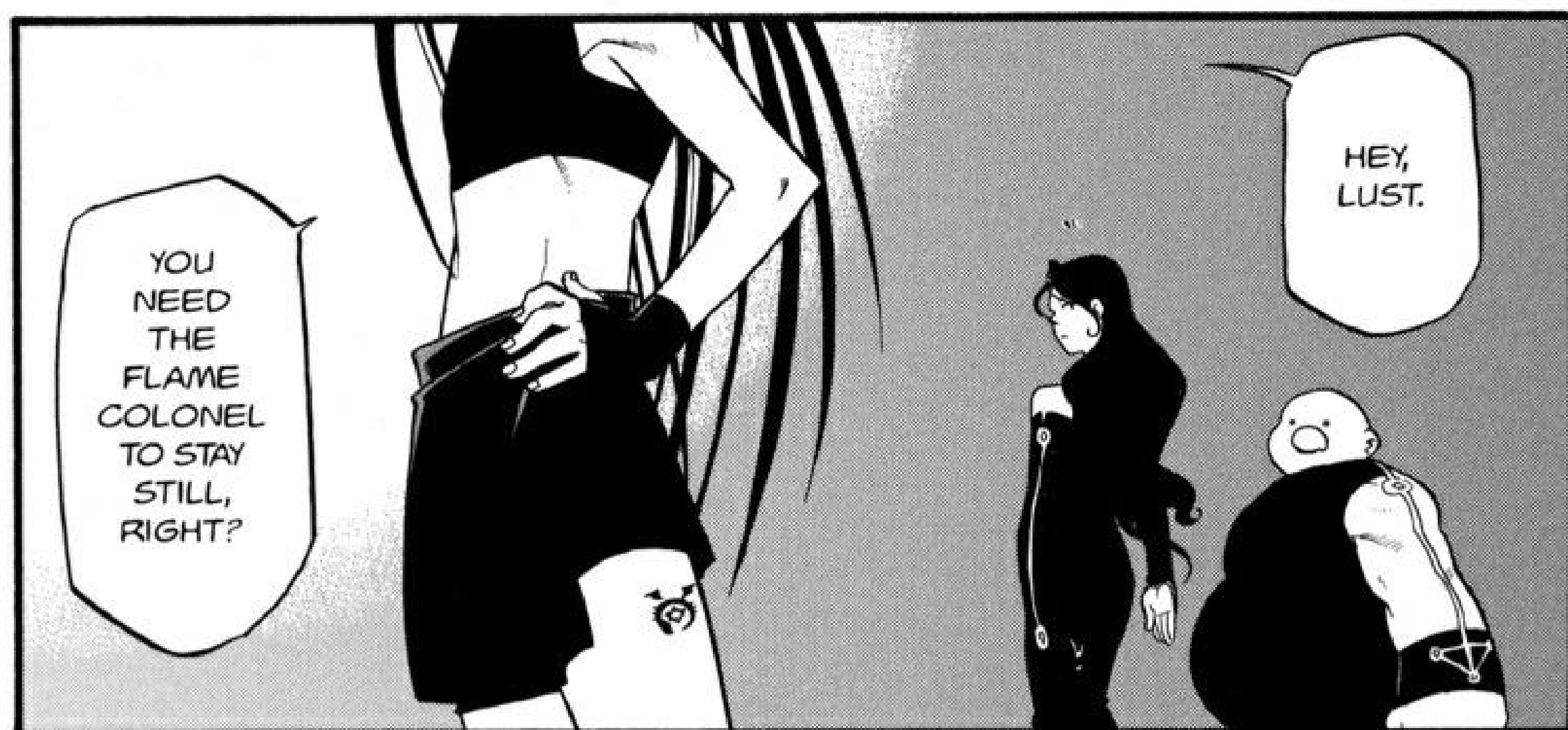
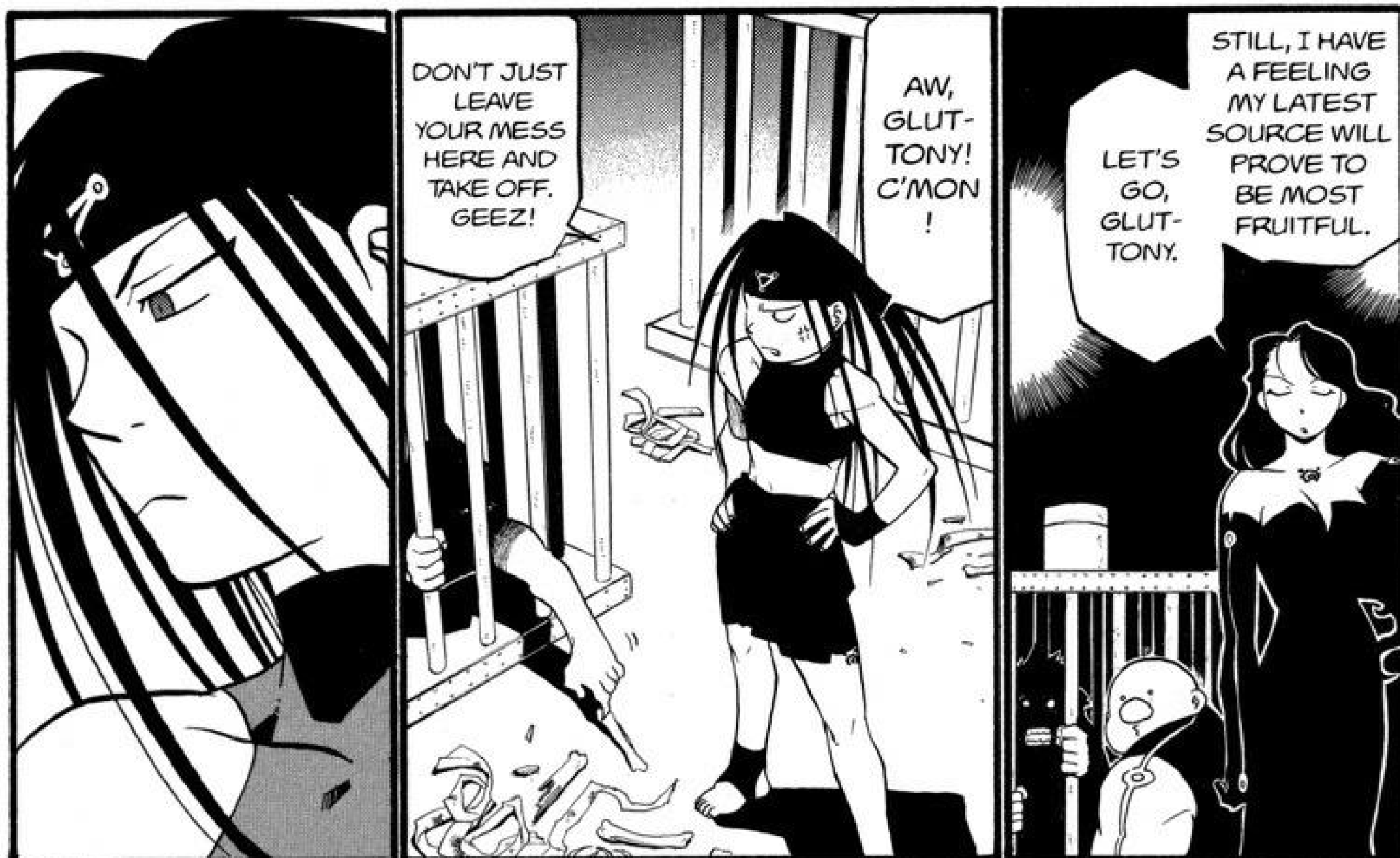
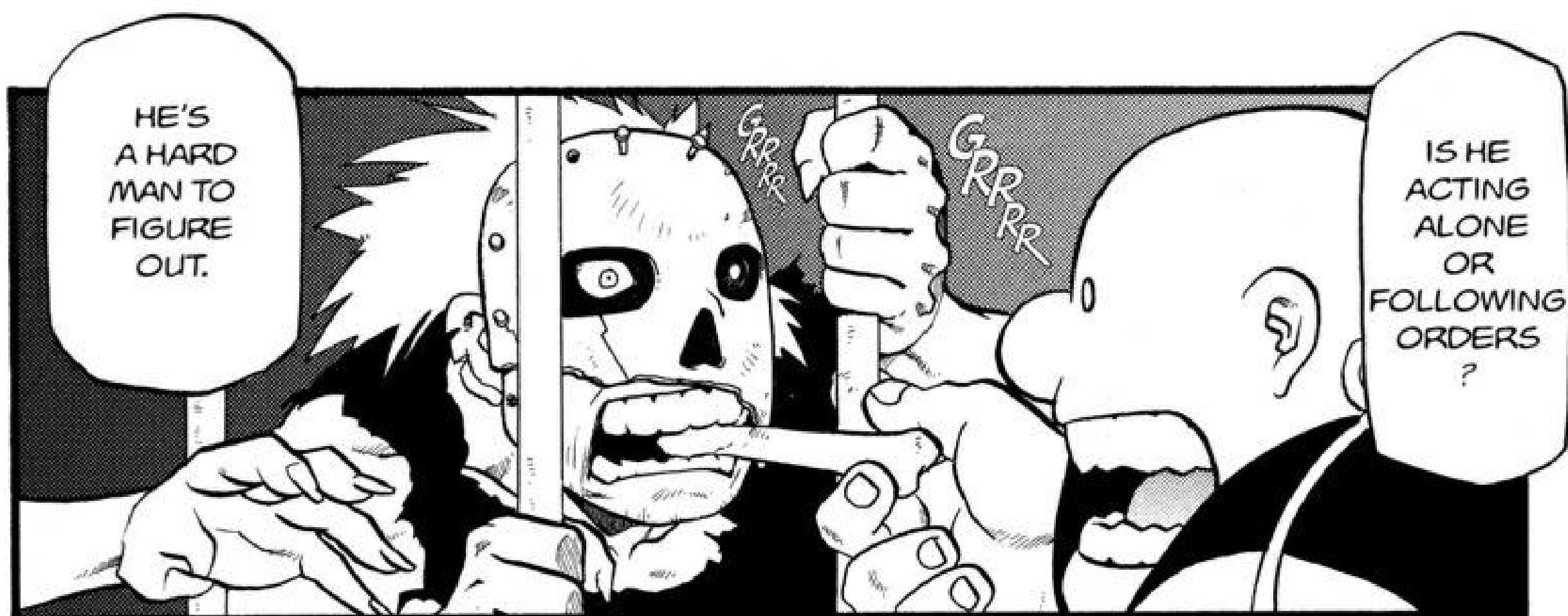
I
WONDER
IF HE
FOUND
ANY
HARD
EVI-
DENCE...

HE'S
BECOME
AWFULLY
NOSY
LATELY.



ROOAR!
GROWR!

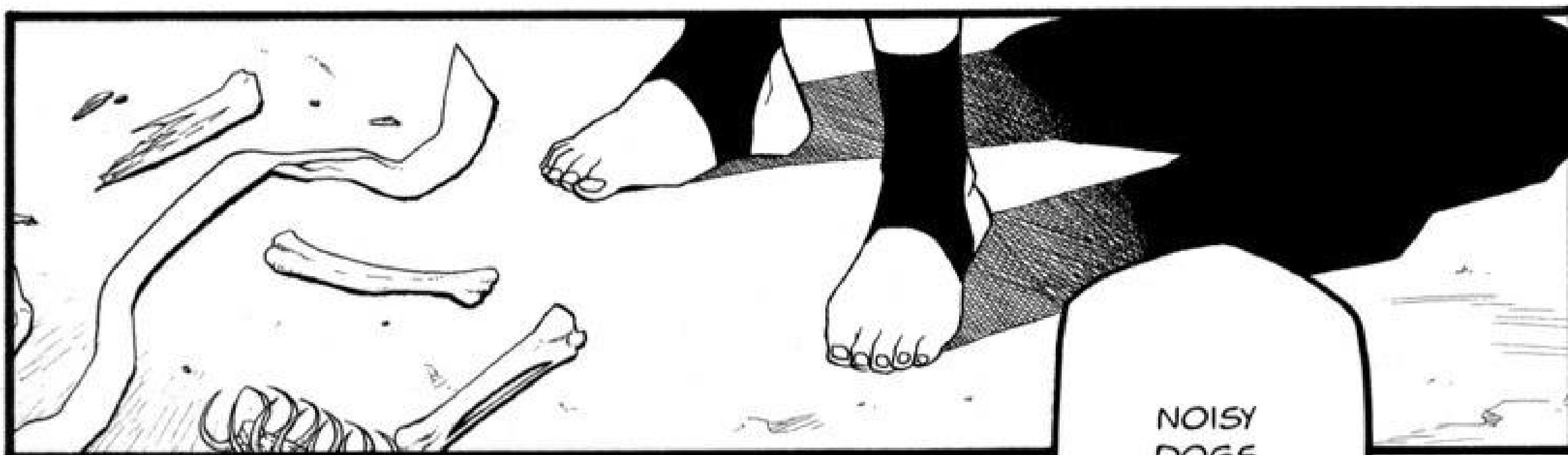






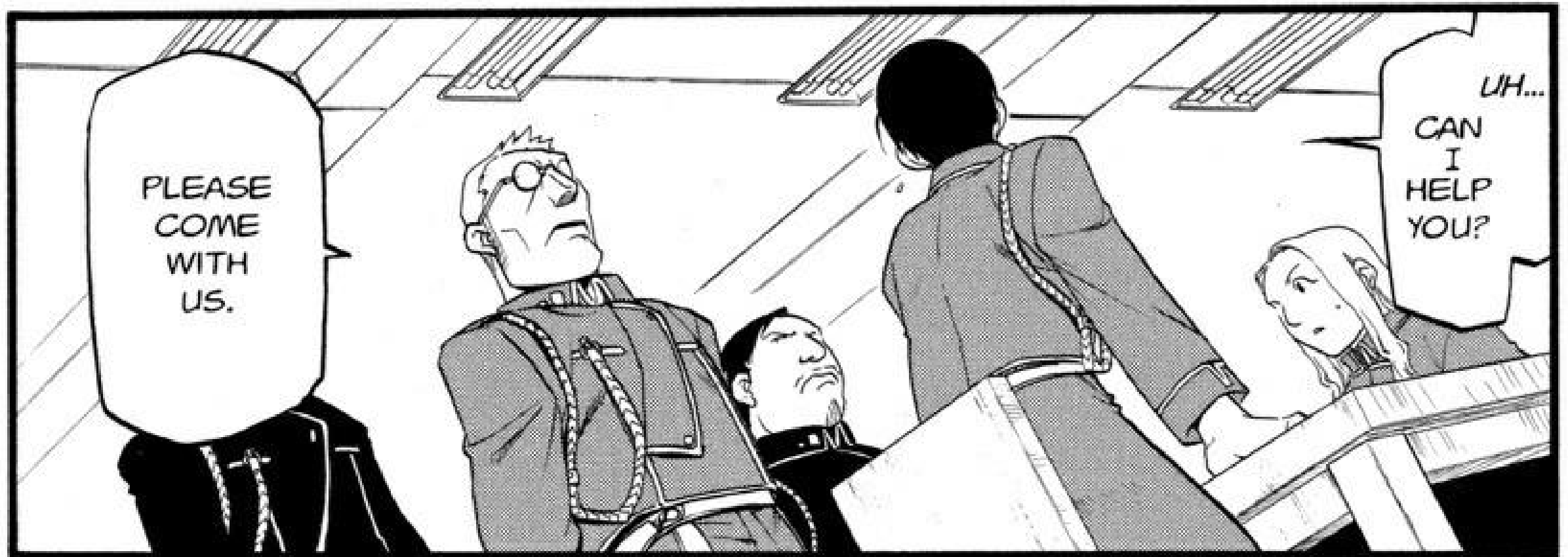
WHY?
DO YOU
HAVE AN
IDEA?

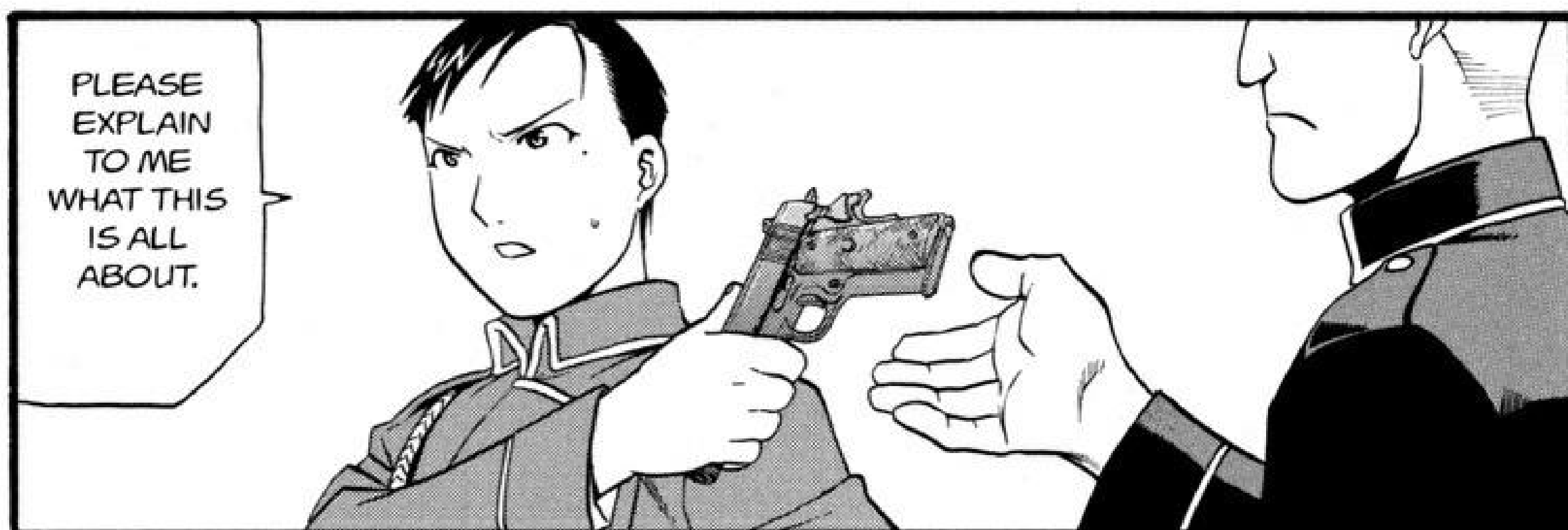
DON'T
YOU THINK
WE SHOULD
HAVE
ANOTHER
PLAN BESIDES
RELYING ON
YOUR
INFORMATION
NETWORK?



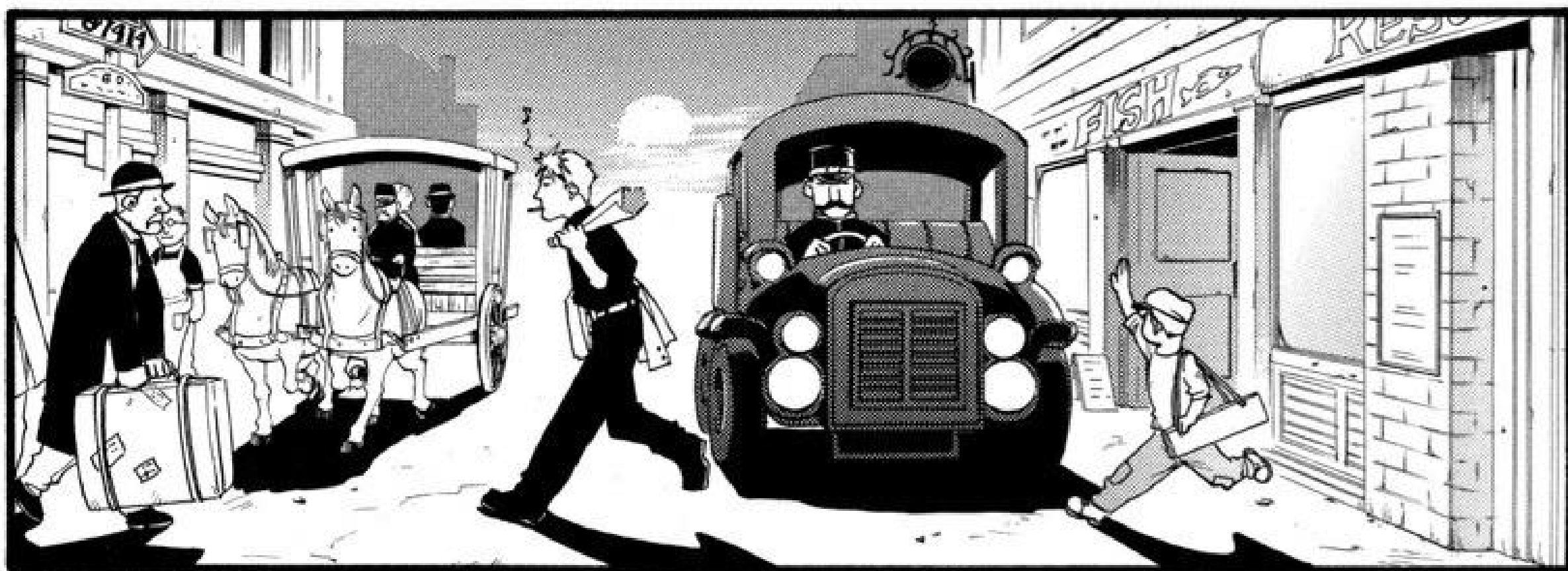
NOISY
DOGS
NEED
TO BE
FED.















FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST